



PHASES OF THE

MOON

MARVEL

L. Ross



PHASES OF THE

MOON KNIGHT



BEFORE MARC SPECTOR DIED AND WAS REBORN AS MOON KNIGHT

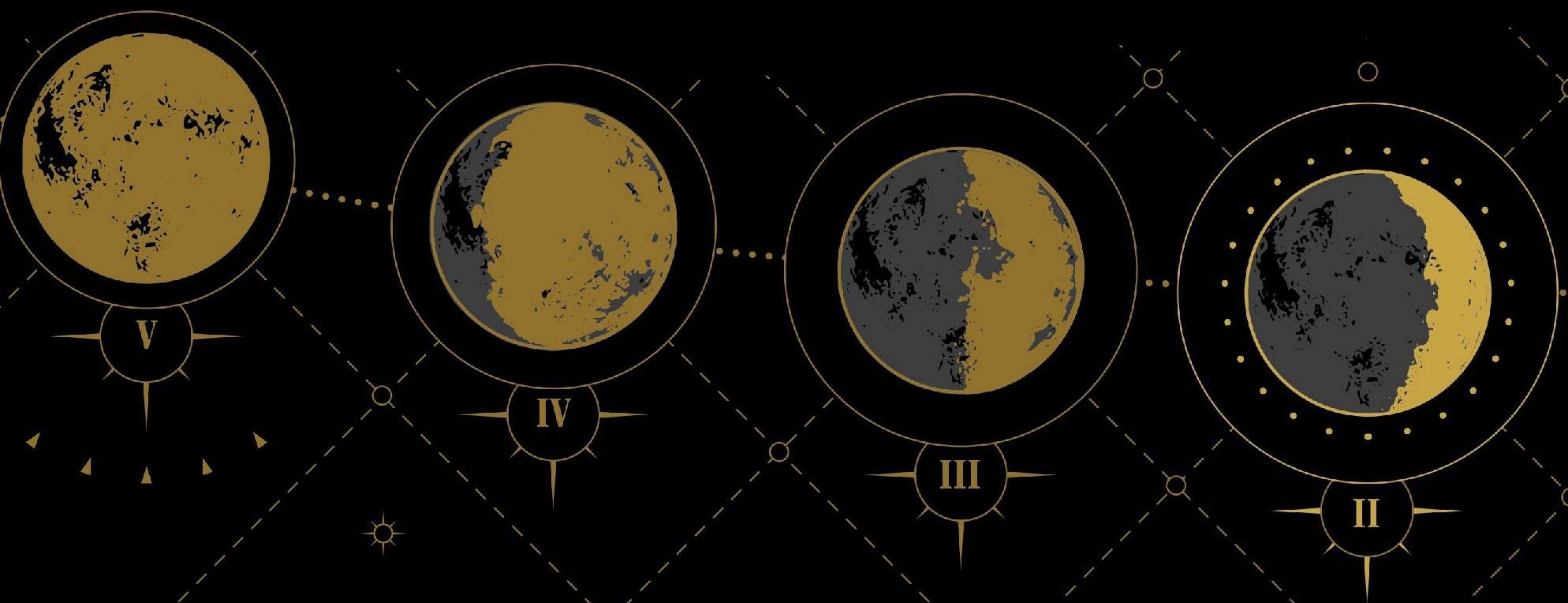
in the shadow of Khonshu, the Egyptian god of the moon, there were others who came before him in the long line of Fists of Khonshu, who stand against evil and fight to protect those who travel at night. Across the past, present and future, the one who bears the Moon Knight mantle has gone through many phases--but the quest for justice never wanes.

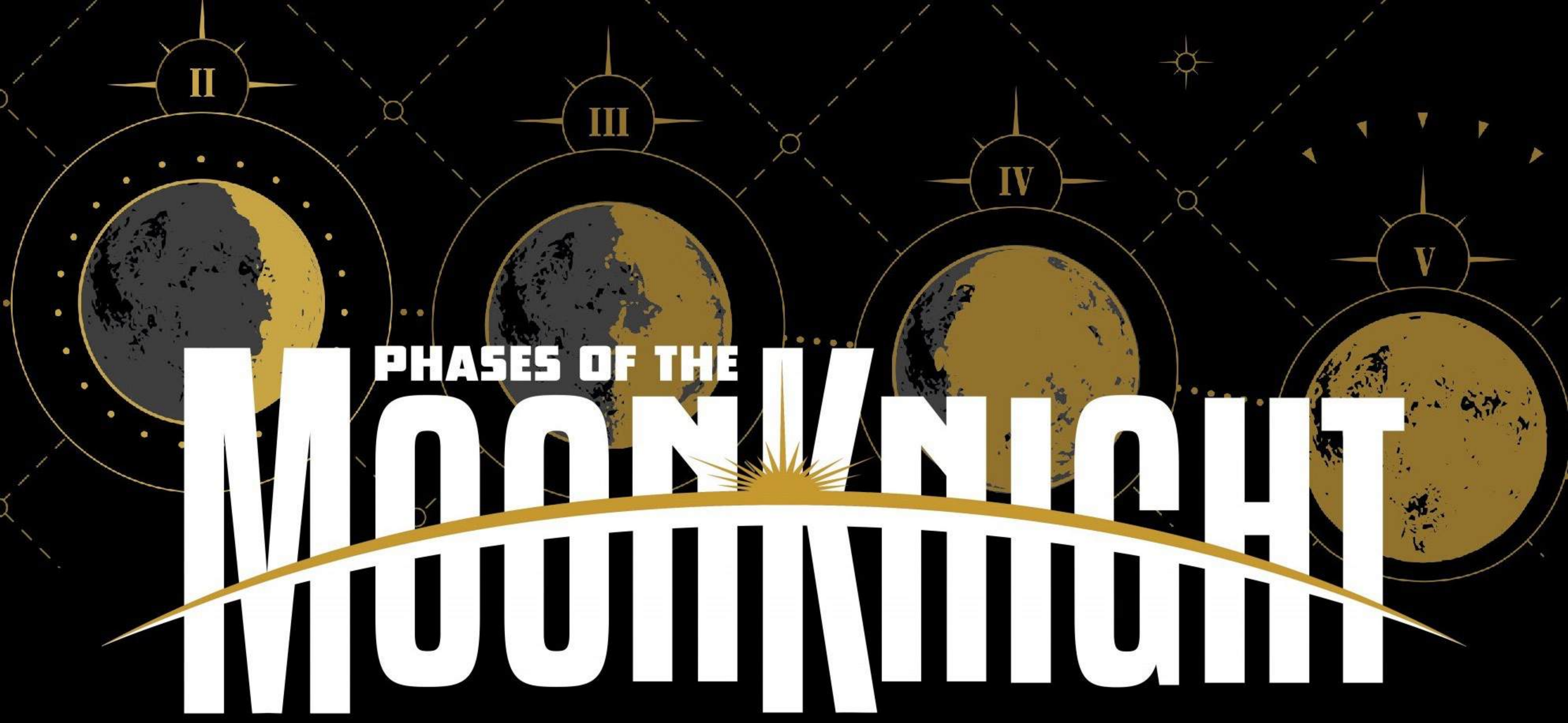
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PHASES OF THE MOON KNIGHT

#1

“THE ONCE & FUTURE KNIGHT”

ERICA SCHULTZ
WRITER

MANUEL GARCÍA
PENCILER

SEAN PARSONS
INKER

CECI de la CRUZ
COLOR ARTIST

“CRUSADER”

BENJAMIN PERCY
WRITER

ROD REIS
ARTIST

#2

“KNIGHT TIME IN THE CITY”

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WRITER

JORGE FORNÉS
ARTIST

LEE LOUGHRIDGE
COLOR ARTIST

“EKLIPSIS”

DECLAN SHALVEY
WRITER

EDER MESSIAS
ARTIST

YEN NITRO
COLOR ARTIST

#3

“MOON KNIGHT-CHAN”

YUJI KAKU
STORY & ART

“THE PAST IS PRESENT”

JUSTINA IRELAND
WRITER

DANIEL BAYLISS
ARTIST

DEE CUNIFFE
COLOR ARTIST

“MINI MARVELS”

CHRIS GIARRUSSO
STORY & ART

#4

“FOR NOW”

FABIAN NICIEZA
WRITER

MOISES HIDALGO
ARTIST

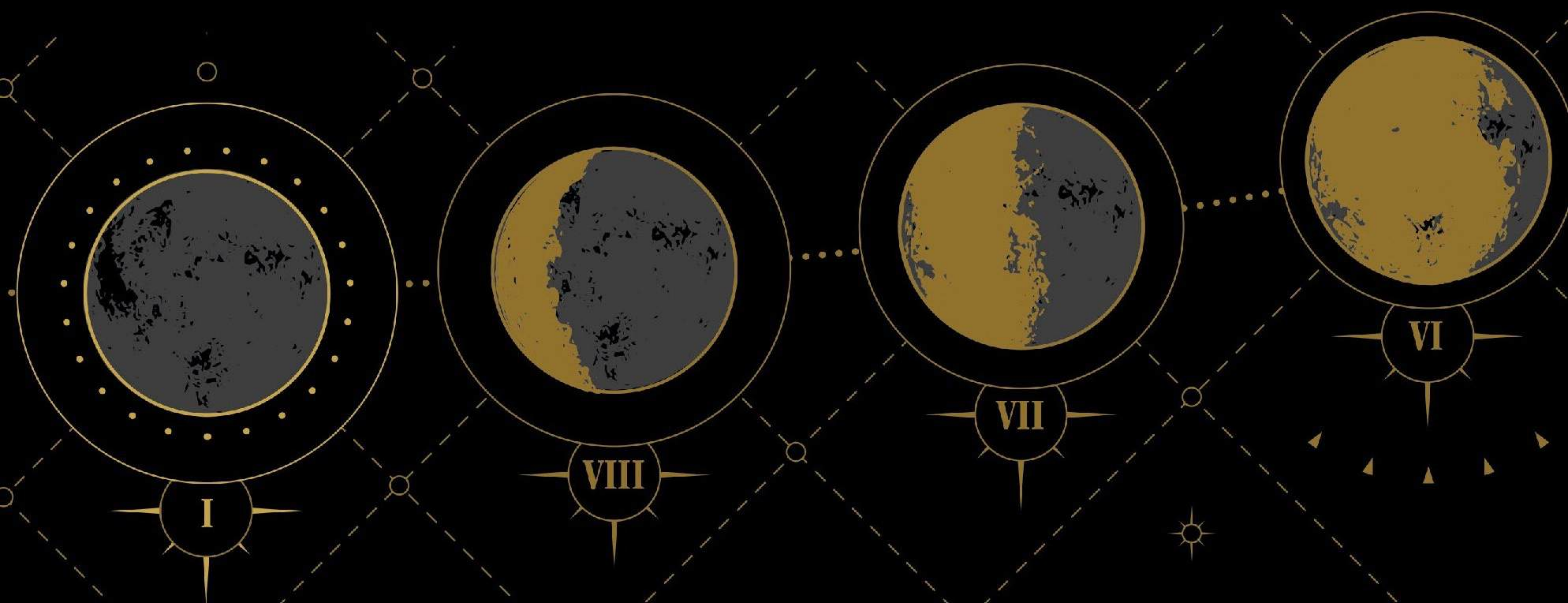
FER SIFUENTES-SUJO
COLOR ARTIST

“BLOOD MOON, BLOOD BROTHERS”

TOM WATLZ
WRITER

KEN LASHLEY &
BRIAN LEVEL
ARTISTS

PROTOBUNKER'S DONO
SÁNCHEZ-ALMARA,
ERICK ARCINIEGA &
ANTONIO FABELA
COLOR ARTISTS





1

“THE ONCE & FUTURE KNIGHT”
“CRUSADER”

THE MIDNIGHT MISSION, BEFORE.

YOU KNOW,
THERE ARE SOME
PEOPLE WHO WILL
NEVER FORGIVE
YOU, MARC.

I'VE DONE
HORRIBLE
THINGS. I
KNOW THAT.

AND I'LL
NEVER BE
ABSOLVED OF
MY SINS...

THIS STORY TAKES PLACE BEFORE **VENGEANCE
OF THE MOON KNIGHT #4 (2024)**.

"...BUT I'VE BEEN ON
A **REDEMPTION**
ARC AS OF LATE."

I HAVEN'T SEEN
MARC SPECTOR
IN WHAT SEEMS
LIKE FOREVER.

SINCE OUR
WEST COAST
AVENGERS
DAYS, RIGHT?

HAS IT BEEN
THAT LONG?

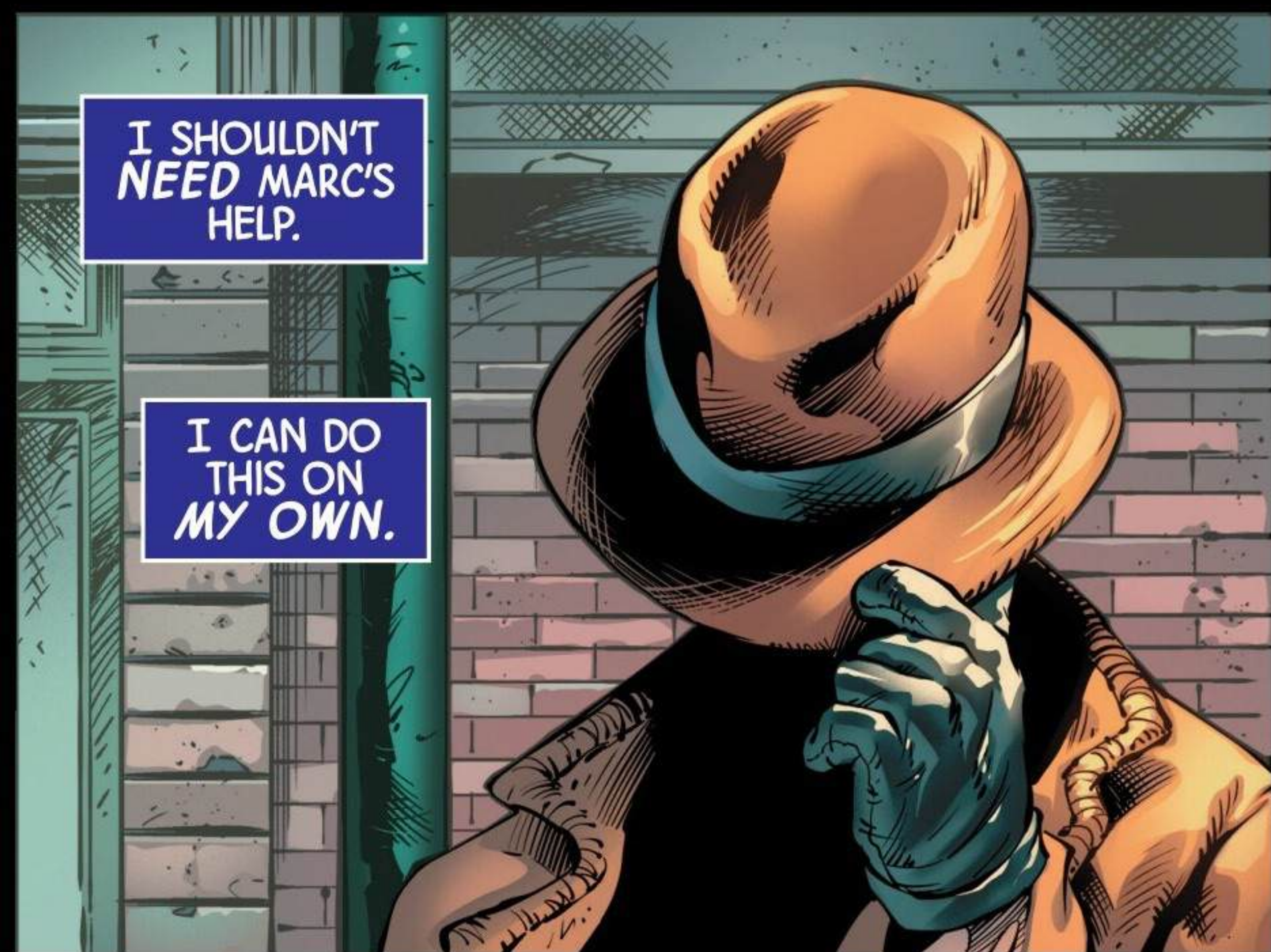
PART OF IT
WAS 'CAUSE I
WAS LOCKED
UP, BUT...

...I JUST MIGHT
BE ON THE ROAD
TO **REDEMPTION**.

MARC'S GONNA
BE **SURPRISED**
WHEN HE SEES ME.

NOK

THE
NEW MAX
COLERIDGE!



I'LL COME BACK AND
SHOW THAT OL' PRIEST OF
KHONSHU WHAT I CAN DO.

I'LL SHOW MARC ALL
THE *JUSTICE* I CAN
BRING IN THIS WORLD.

I'LL...I'LL
SHOW *HIM*!



WELCOME TO
THE MIDNIGHT
MISSION.

IS THERE
ANYONE
THERE?

DON'T
BE AFRAID.



SOLDIER...
WHAT'S UP?
DING DONG
DASH?

GUESS
SO, REESE...



I'LL MAKE MY
OLD FRIEND,
MARC, *PROUD*.

I'LL SHOW HIM
AND *EVERYONE*
ELSE THE HERO
I CAN BE.



A full-page comic book illustration showing Moon Knight, in his blue and silver suit, fighting a large, muscular, brown-skinned monster with a wide, toothy grin. Moon Knight is in a dynamic pose, with his right arm extended forward, fist clenched, as if he's just thrown a punch or is about to. The monster is roaring, with its mouth open showing sharp teeth. The background is a city street in Brooklyn, with tall buildings and a streetcar visible. The scene is filled with action and drama.

**BROOKLYN.
NOW.**

WAXMAN
HERE DESERVES
THIS BEATING.

HE WASN'T DOING
ANYTHING WRONG...
NOT *THIS* TIME...

...BUT HE'S HAD
IT COMIN'
FOR A WHILE.

MARC SPECTOR
IS DEAD.

NOW I AM THE
MOON KNIGHT...

WILD

...AND I'M SERVING
JUSTICE THE WAY IT'S
MEANT TO BE SERVED.



WE DIDN'T
DO NOTHIN',
MOONIE!

WAXMAN, DIGGER
AND TATTERDEMATION
WERE MEMBERS OF
THE *NIGHT SHIFT*...

...A CRIMINAL ENTERPRISE
I INFILTRATED IN
CALIFORNIA YEARS AGO.

BACK THEN, THE PLAN HAD BEEN
TO TAKE THE ORGANIZATION
DOWN FROM THE *INSIDE*.

BUT WHAT'S THAT
OLD SAYING ABOUT
"MAKING A PLAN"?

WHACK

NOW I HAVE TO LIVE
UP TO THE *NEW*
NAME I'VE TAKEN.

I'M THE
SHROUD NO
MORE.

I DIDN'T
CHOOSE TO
BE A HERO.

THAT RESPONSIBILITY
WAS *THRUST* ON
ME WHEN MY PARENTS
WERE KILLED.

ONE DAY, YOU'RE
A REGULAR KID,
AND THE NEXT...
THE UNTHINKABLE
HAPPENS.

I WENT TO LAW SCHOOL, BUT
IT WAS CLEAR THAT LAWS COULDN'T
HANDLE *EVERY* PROBLEM.

SO I TRAINED MY
BODY AND MIND WITH
THE CULT OF KALI.

THEY SHOWED ME
THAT BEING A HERO
WAS MY *DESTINY*.

AS *THE SHROUD*,
I DID WHAT WAS
NECESSARY TO
FIGHT CRIME.

EVEN IF THAT
MEANT BECOMING
A *CRIMINAL*.

BUT MY GAMBIT
DIDN'T WORK...

...AND I WAS PULLED
DOWN INTO THE HELL
THESE VILLAINS RUN IN.

IT COST ME MY
REPUTATION, MY LOVE,
EVERYTHING.





GOTCHA!

DESPITE LOSING EVERYTHING, I PERSEVERED.

NOW I'M THE HERO THE MIDNIGHT MISSION NEEDS.

YOU'RE NOT GOIN' ANYWHERE!

KEEP HIM ON THE GROUND, WAXMAN!

TATTERDEMATION'S GLOVES ARE LACED WITH CHEMICALS.

THEY WON'T PENETRATE MY COSTUME.

BUT...

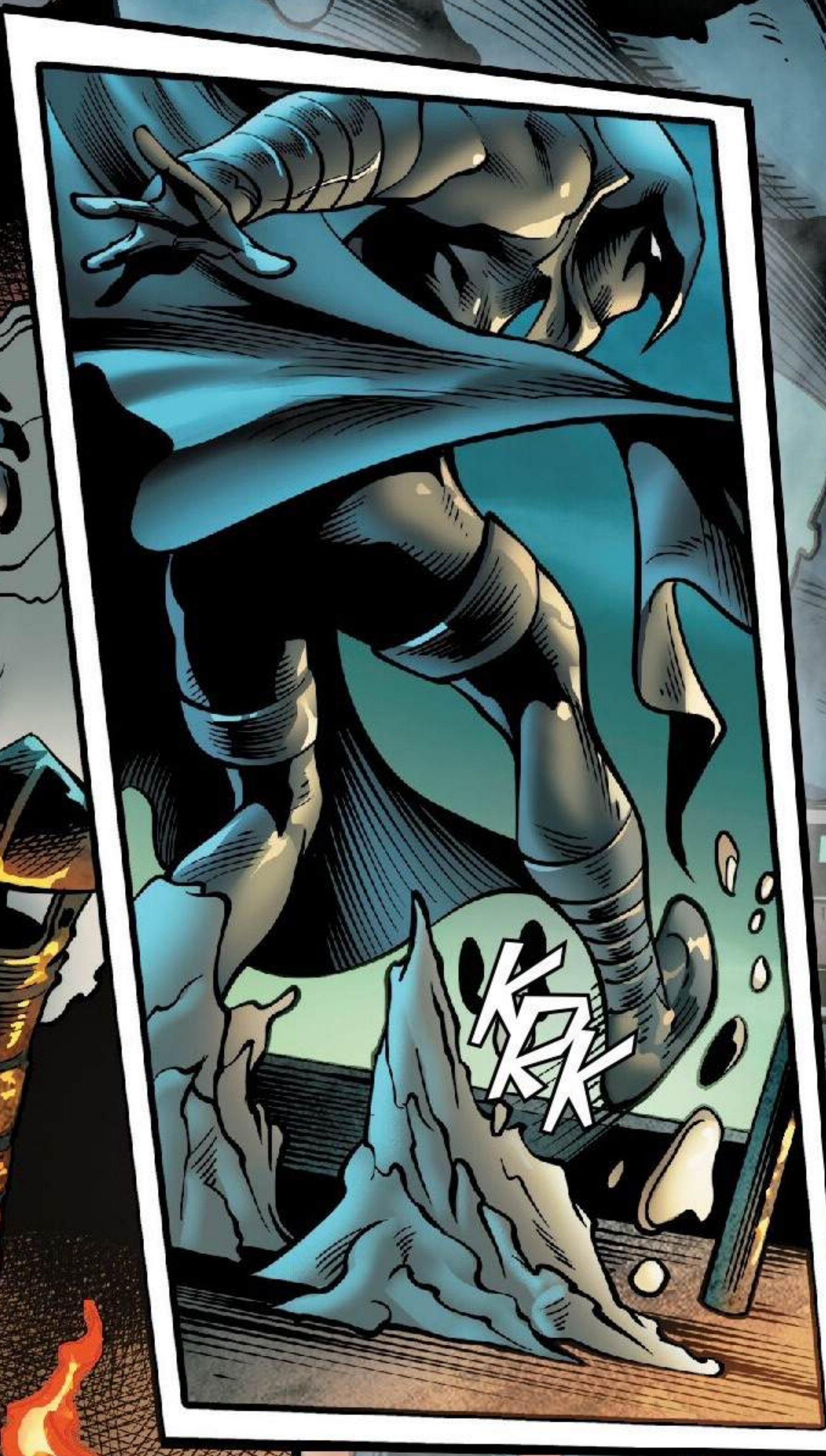
...THEY'RE FLAMMABLE.

AHHH!

SQUELCH

FWOOSH

AND WAXMAN WAS ALWAYS SUSCEPTIBLE TO EXTREME TEMPERATURES.



NOW IT'S DIGGER'S TURN.

I'M MELTING!

IT BURNS!

NO!

AAIIIE-- IT BURNS!!!

C'MON, MAN...

YOU KNOW WHAT'S COMING.

PUT ME DOWN!

AS YOU WISH!

NOOO!





LATER.

WAXMAN, DIGGER,
TATTERDEMALION...

...THOSE JOKERS
**DOUBLE-
CROSSED** ME ALL
THOSE YEARS AGO.



→SIGH← UP
AN' AT 'EM,
CHRISTOPHER
JONES.



THEY GOT AWAY
WITH IT TOO...FOR
A LITTLE WHILE.



BUT I NEVER
FORGOT IT.

I NEVER
FORGOT ABOUT
THEM.



...BREAKING
NEWS...

THIS IS WHAT
BEING A HERO
IS ALL ABOUT.



THIS IS WHAT BEING
MOON KNIGHT
IS ALL ABOUT.



THIS IS
JUSTICE.

...REPORTS
SAY THE MOON
KNIGHT WAS ON
A RAMPAGE
LAST NIGHT...

IT FEELS *GOOD*
TO DO THE
RIGHT THING...



H-HELWPPPP...

HELLO?



...TO BE *RECOGNIZED*
FOR MY HARD WORK.



FOR THE WORLD
TO KNOW I'M
A *HERO!*

WHO
DID THIS TO
YOU?

MOOOON...
KNIIGHTTT...



HELLO,
9-1-1?

PLEASE...
YOU GOTTA
HELP HIM!

HE'S
IN *BAD*
SHAPE!



HOME SWEET HOME.



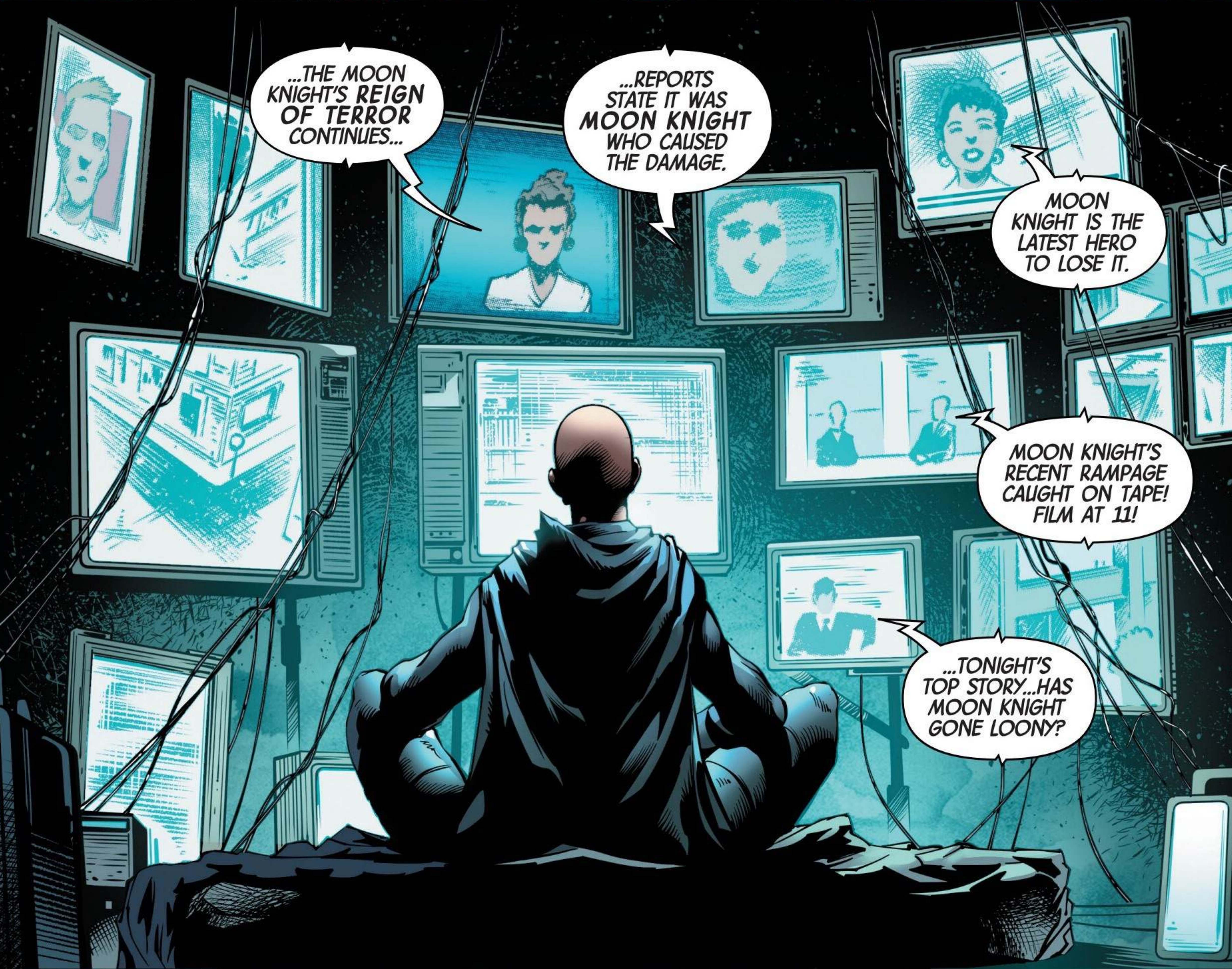
...THE MOON KNIGHT'S REIGN OF TERROR CONTINUES...

...REPORTS STATE IT WAS MOON KNIGHT WHO CAUSED THE DAMAGE.

MOON KNIGHT IS THE LATEST HERO TO LOSE IT.

MOON KNIGHT'S RECENT RAMPAGE CAUGHT ON TAPE! FILM AT 11!

...TONIGHT'S TOP STORY...HAS MOON KNIGHT GONE LOONY?



AHH... ANOTHER JOB WELL DONE.



END.

1200.
ENGLAND.

HIS NAME WAS
CASSIAN, AND
HE WAS BORN
A PEASANT.

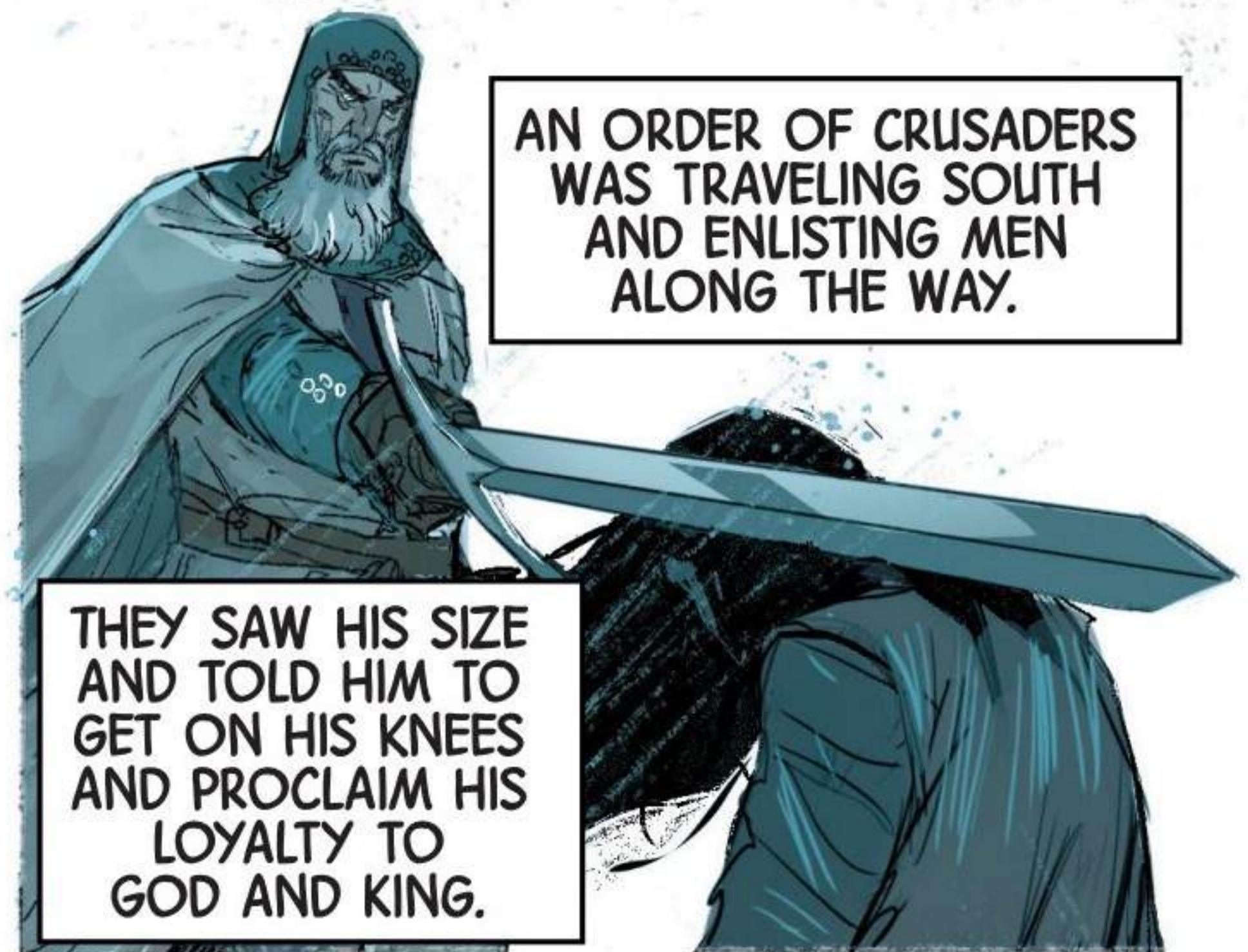


HE HAD SPENT HIS LIFE IN THE SERVICE
OF THE KEEP--TENDING TO THE PIGS
AND SHEEP WHOSE MEAT AND WOOL
KEPT THE ROYALS FAT AND WARM.

UNTIL
NOW.



AN ORDER OF CRUSADERS
WAS TRAVELING SOUTH
AND ENLISTING MEN
ALONG THE WAY.



THEY SAW HIS SIZE
AND TOLD HIM TO
GET ON HIS KNEES
AND PROCLAIM HIS
LOYALTY TO
GOD AND KING.

HE DID NOT
BELIEVE IN
GOD, OR THE
KING, BUT HE
BELIEVED IN
STEEL.



AND THOUGH
HE DID NOT
HUNGER FOR WAR...

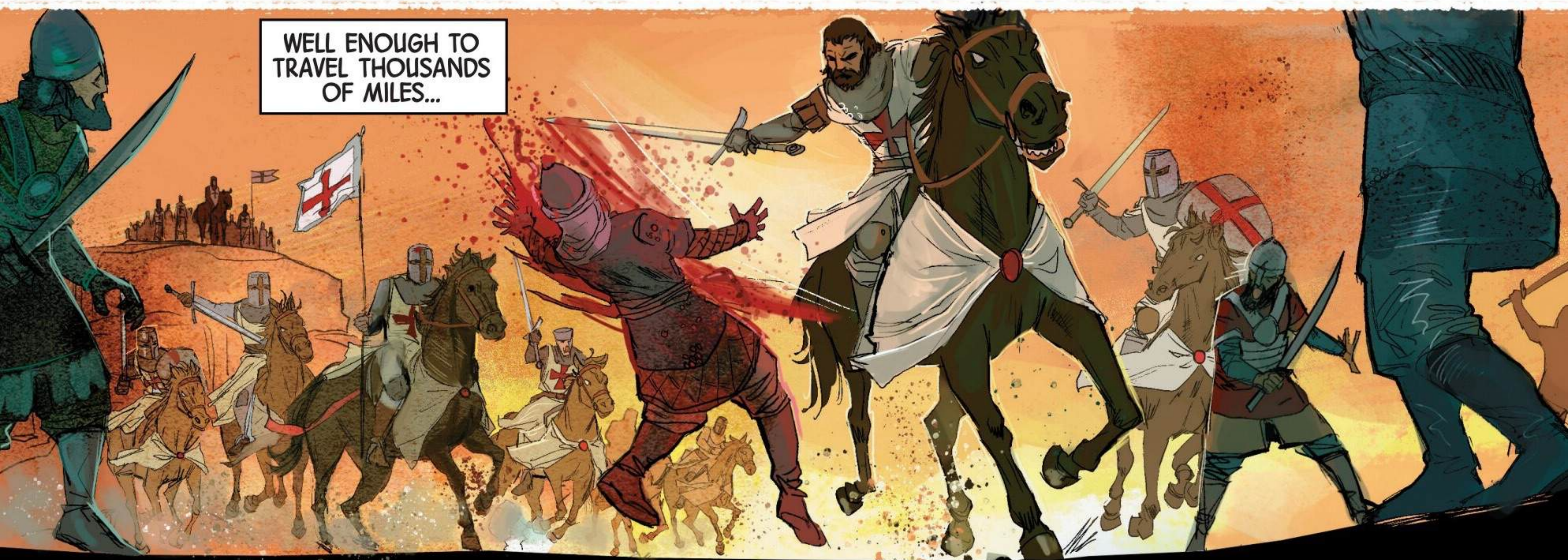


...HE DID NOT
MIND THE
PROSPECT OF
A SUNNIER
CLIMATE.





HE FOUGHT WELL.



WELL ENOUGH TO TRAVEL THOUSANDS OF MILES...



...TO SURVIVE THREE YEARS OF CARNAGE.

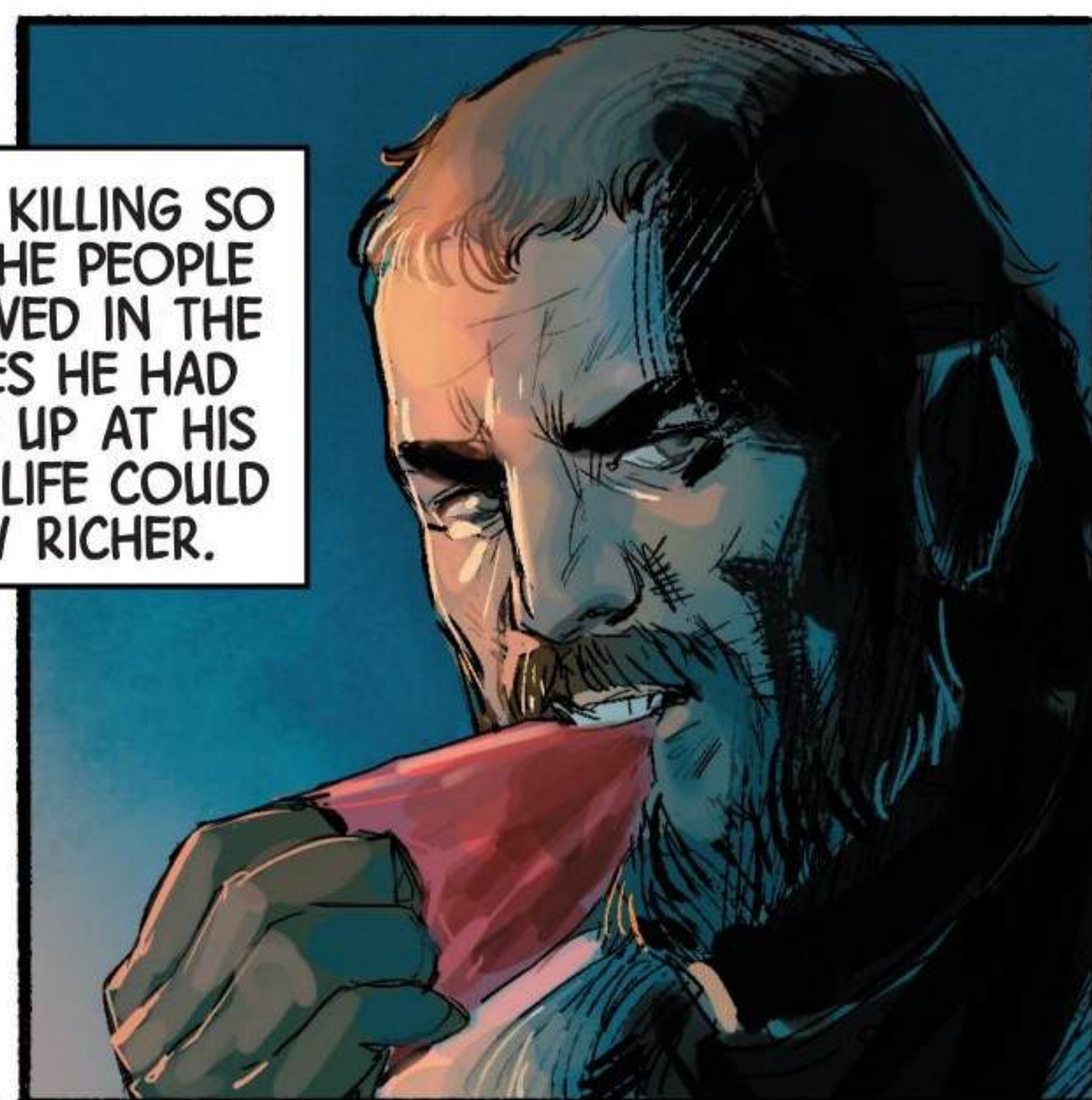


NORTH AFRICA.

BUT EVEN IN MOMENTS OF PEACE, A WAR WAS UNDERWAY INSIDE OF HIM.

HE WAS FIGHTING FOR SOMETHING HE HATED.

HE WAS KILLING SO THAT THE PEOPLE WHO LIVED IN THE CASTLES HE HAD STARED UP AT HIS WHOLE LIFE COULD GROW RICHER.





HE DID NOT KNOW
WHO HE WAS, BUT HE
KNEW WHO HE WAS NOT.

WITHOUT A
WORD, HE
ABANDONED
HIS ORDER.

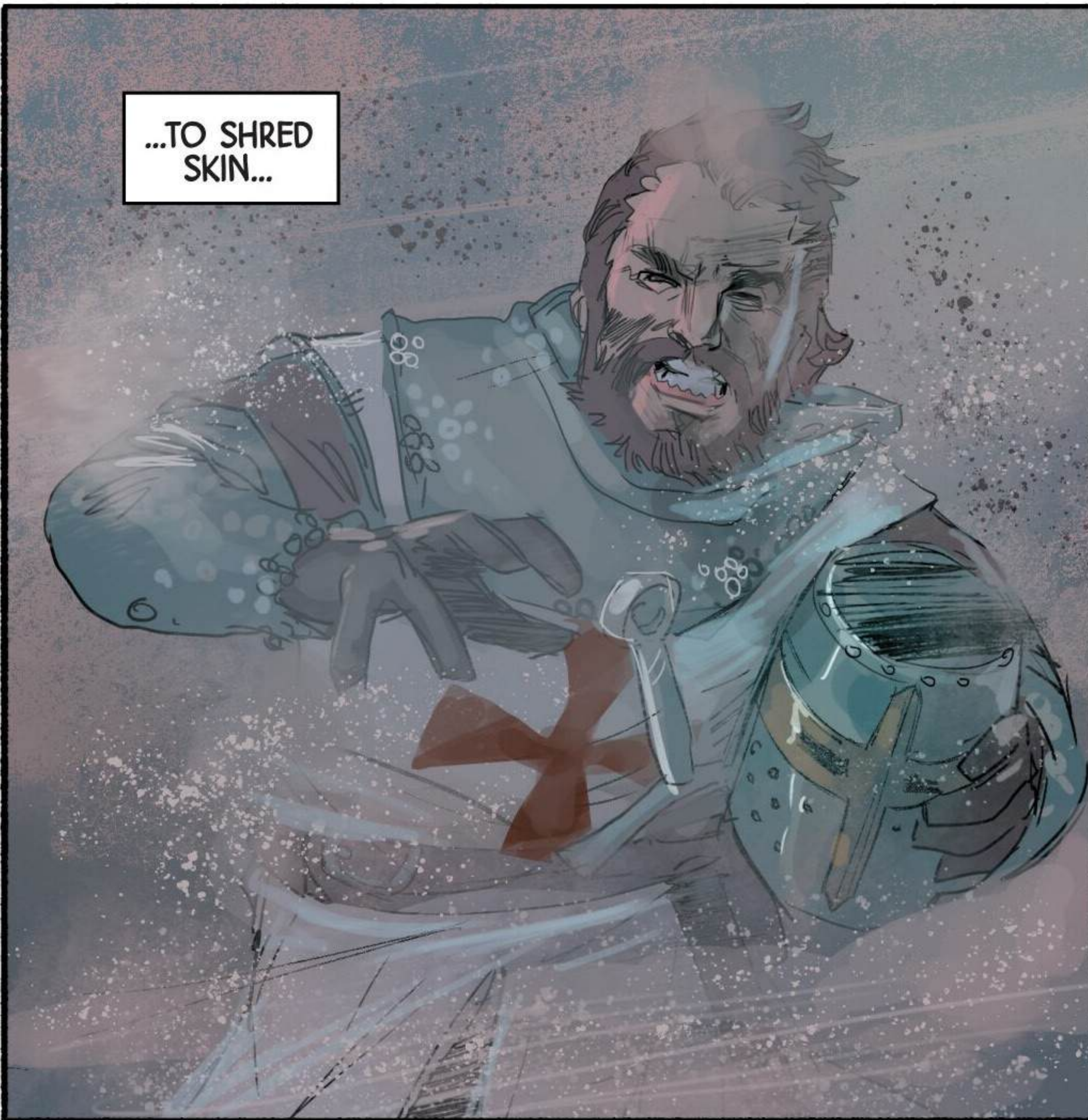


LITTLE DID HE KNOW
THAT AT THAT SAME
MOMENT...

...A GREAT
SANDSTORM WAS
APPROACHING.



ONE STRONG
ENOUGH TO
BLIND EYES...



...TO SHRED
SKIN...

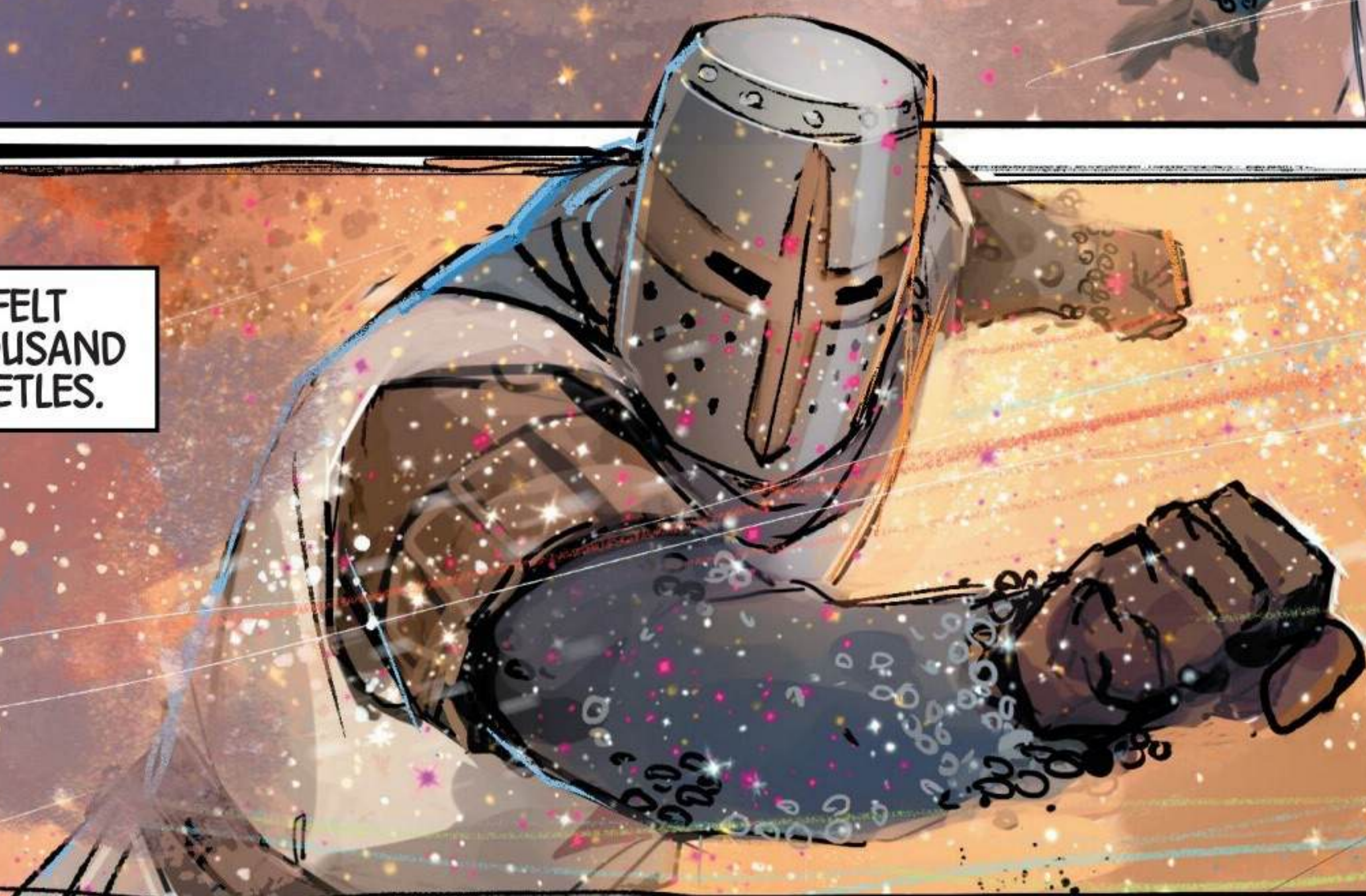
...AND TO
DROWN
LUNGS.



THE SAND SOUNDED
LIKE A THOUSAND
HOWLING JACKALS.



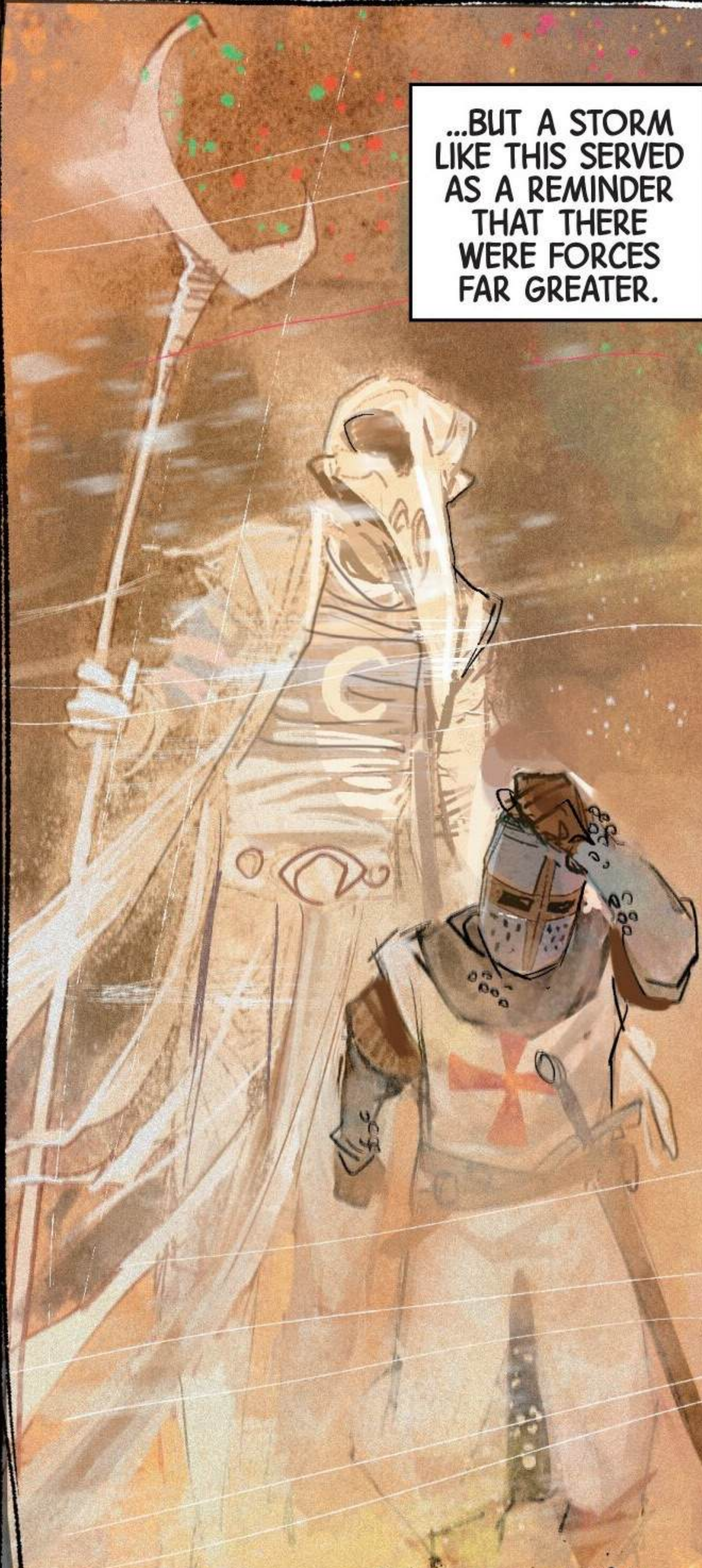
AND IT FELT
LIKE A THOUSAND
BITING BEETLES.



HUMANS MIGHT
BELIEVE THEMSELVES
THE MOST POWERFUL
ENTITIES ON EARTH,
WARRING OVER LAND
AND WEALTH AND
RELIGION...



...BUT A STORM
LIKE THIS SERVED
AS A REMINDER
THAT THERE
WERE FORCES
FAR GREATER.



MAYBE HOURS PASSED,
MAYBE DAYS...



...BUT WHEN HE
WOKE, HE FOUND
HIMSELF SHELTERED
FROM THE STORM.

HAK
HAK.



HRRRRR.



HE HEARD WHAT COULD
HAVE BEEN THE WIND,
WHISPERING THROUGH THE
CRACKS AND HALLWAYS
OF THE STRUCTURE...



...OR WHAT
COULD HAVE
BEEN VOICES.

HE SAW, IN THE SHADOWS,
CREATURES THAT SEEMED TO
BECKON HIM FORWARD.



HE COULD NOT
TELL IF HE WAS
IN A TEMPLE OR
A TOMB.

OR IF THEY
WERE ONE AND
THE SAME.

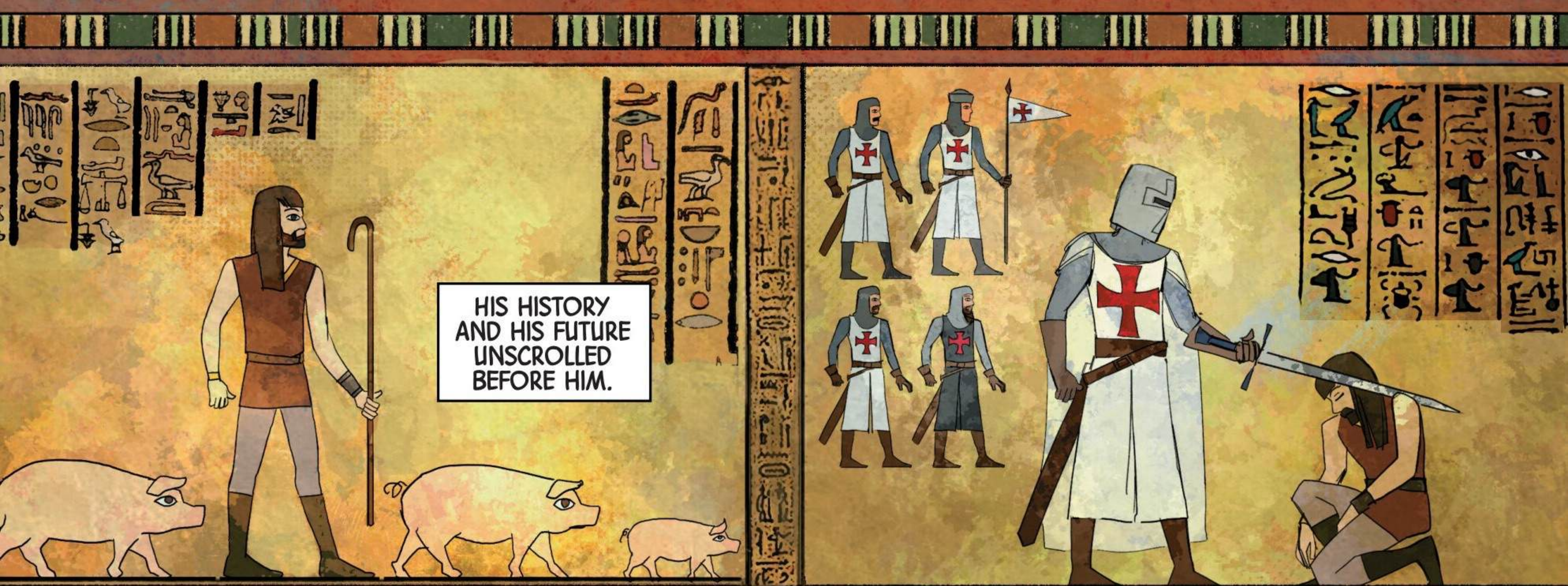
A VOICE
SPOKE TO HIM.

A VOICE THAT SEEMED
TO CONTAIN MANY
LANGUAGES AT ONCE,
INCLUDING HIS OWN.

STEP
INTO THE
LIGHT.

CASSIAN DID
NOT BELIEVE IN
GODS OR DEVILS...

...UNTIL HE
FOUND
HIMSELF IN
THE GRIP
OF ONE.

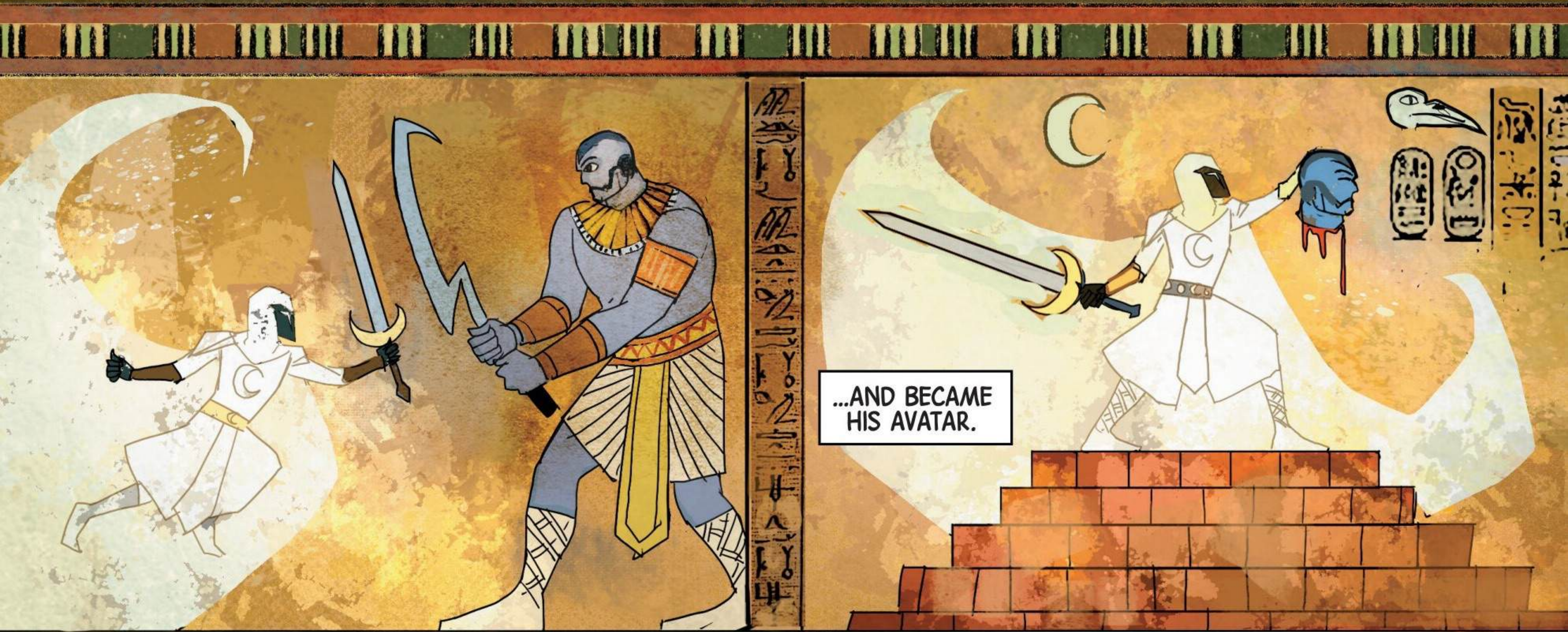


HIS HISTORY
AND HIS FUTURE
UNSCROLLED
BEFORE HIM.

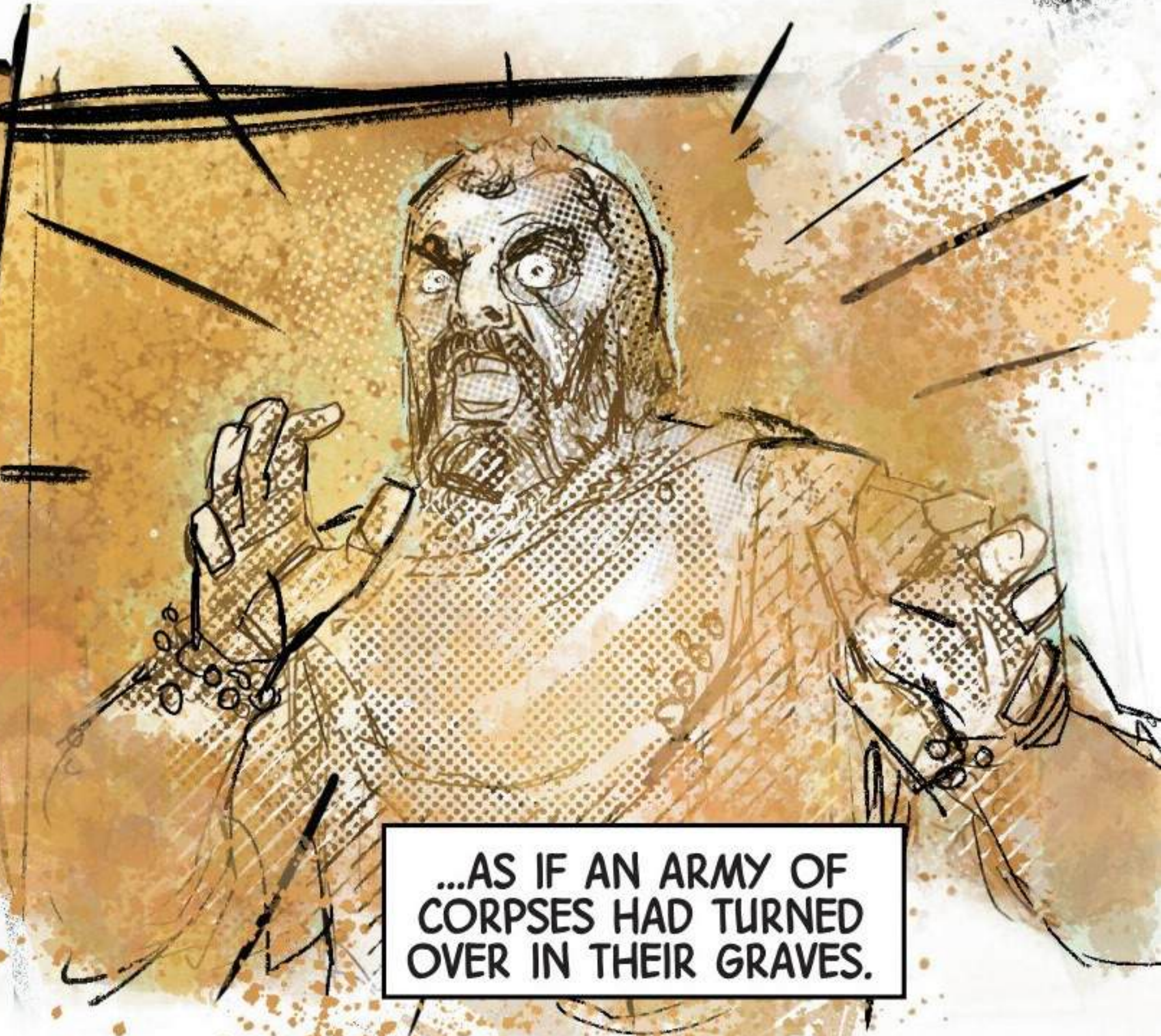
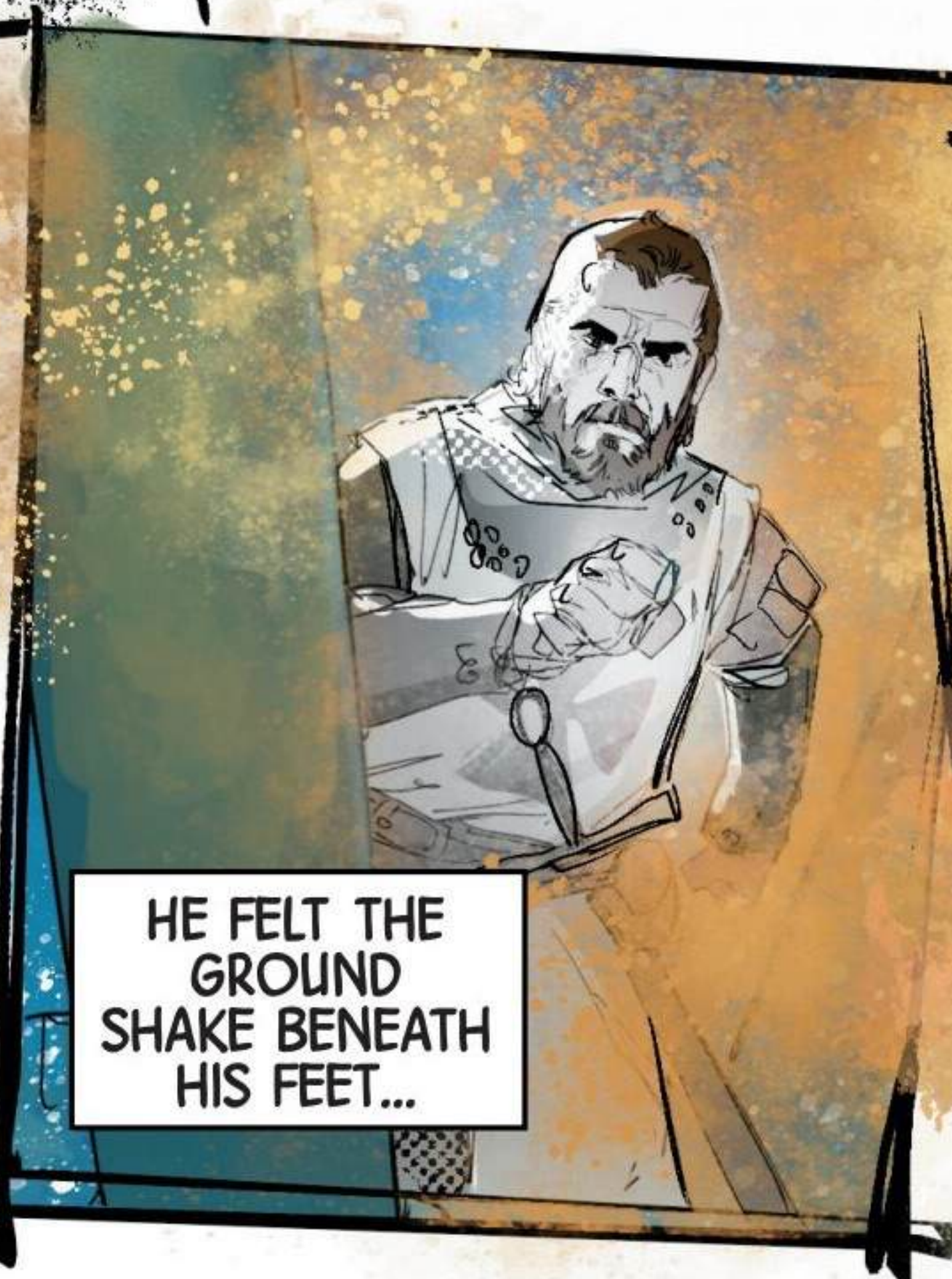
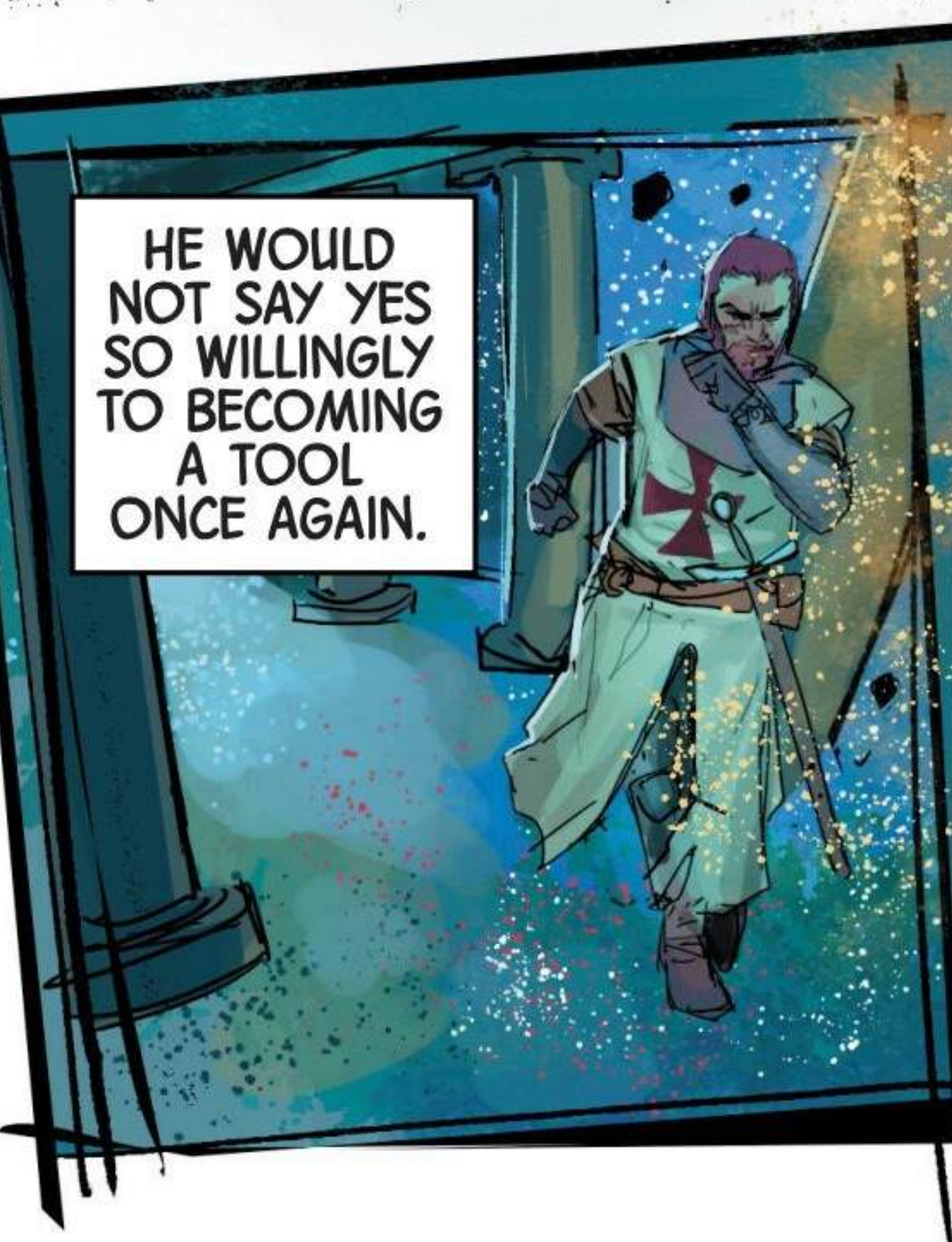
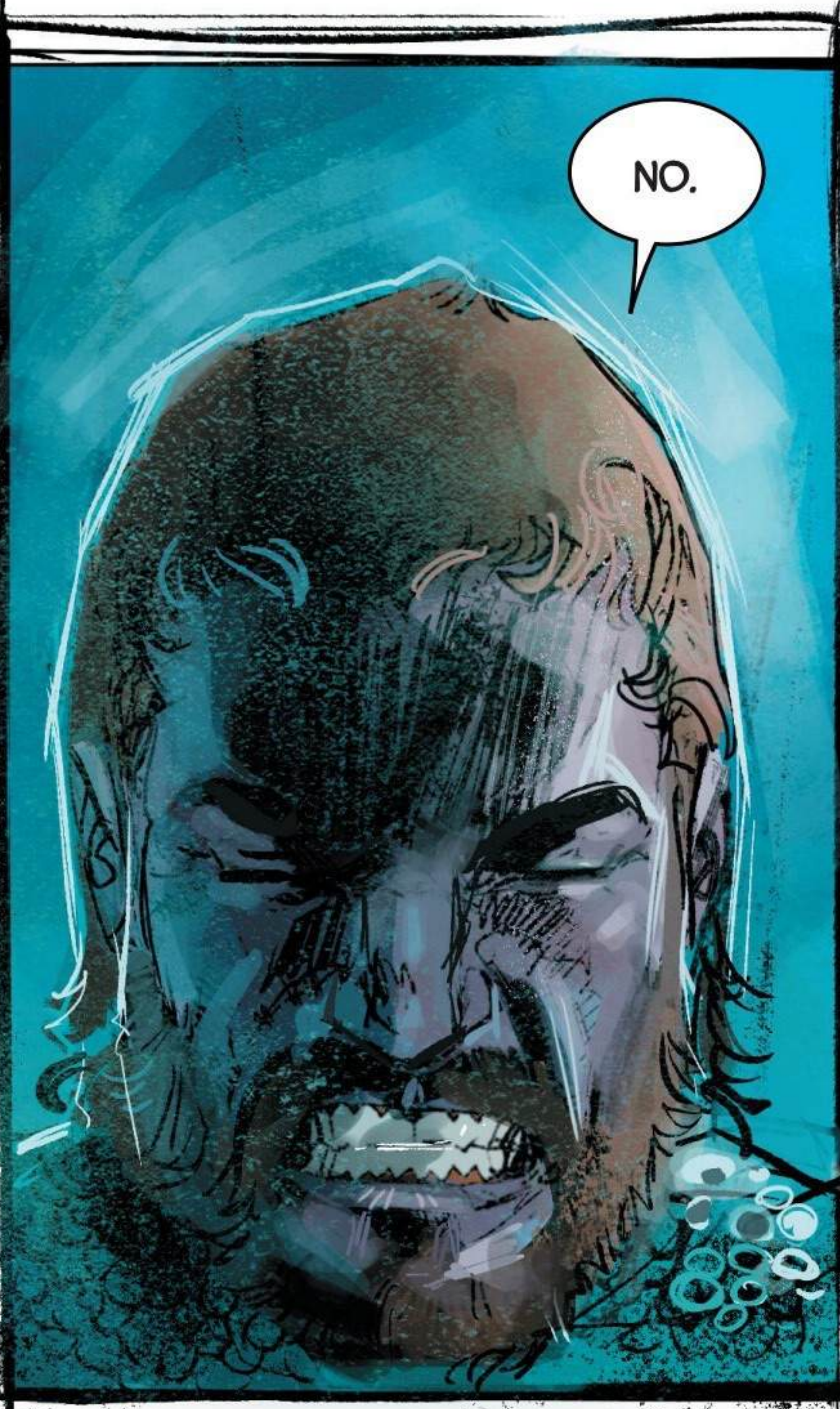
HE WOULD BE THE
HUMBLE SERVANT
WHO ROSE TO BECOME
THE HERO OF AN AGE.

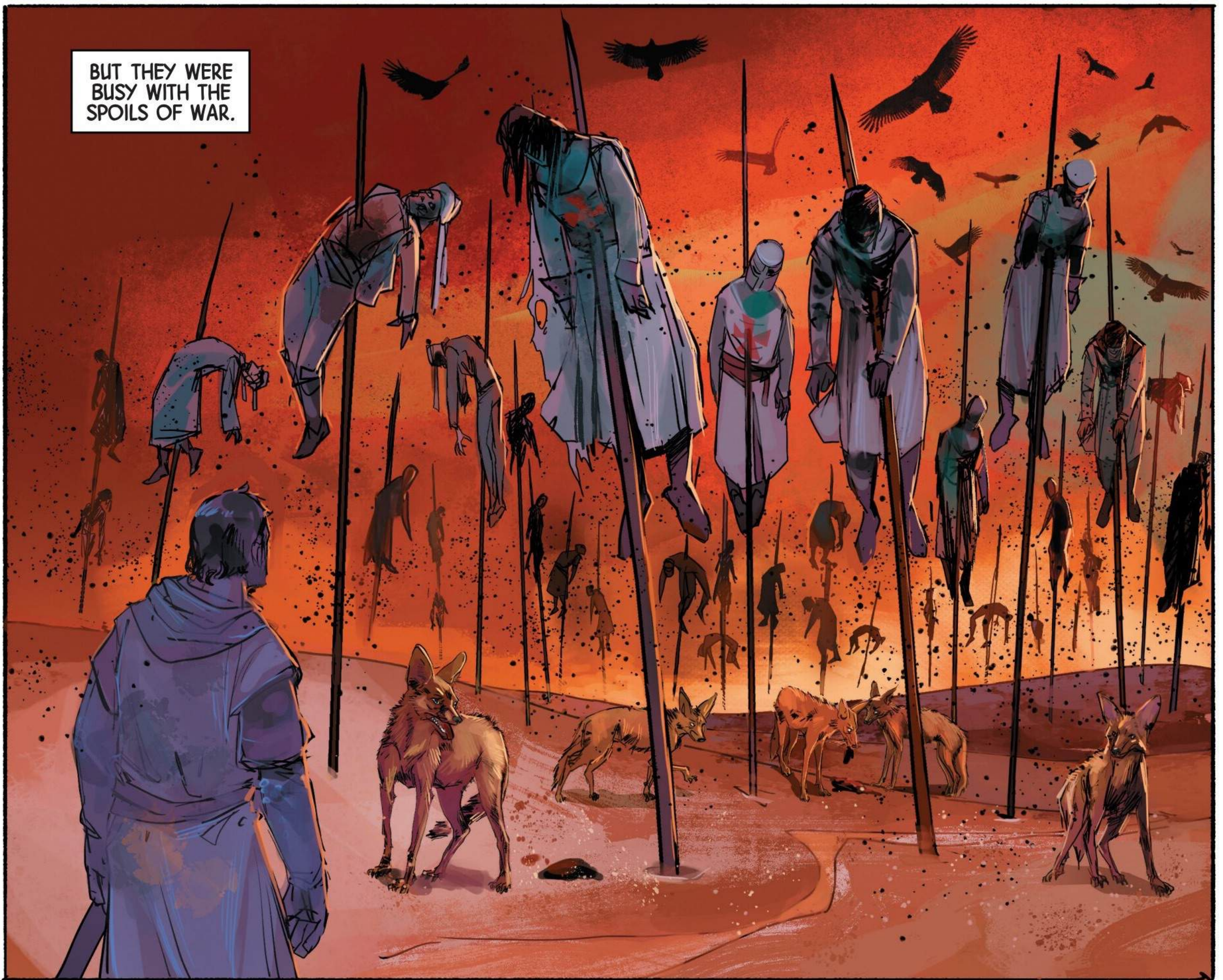
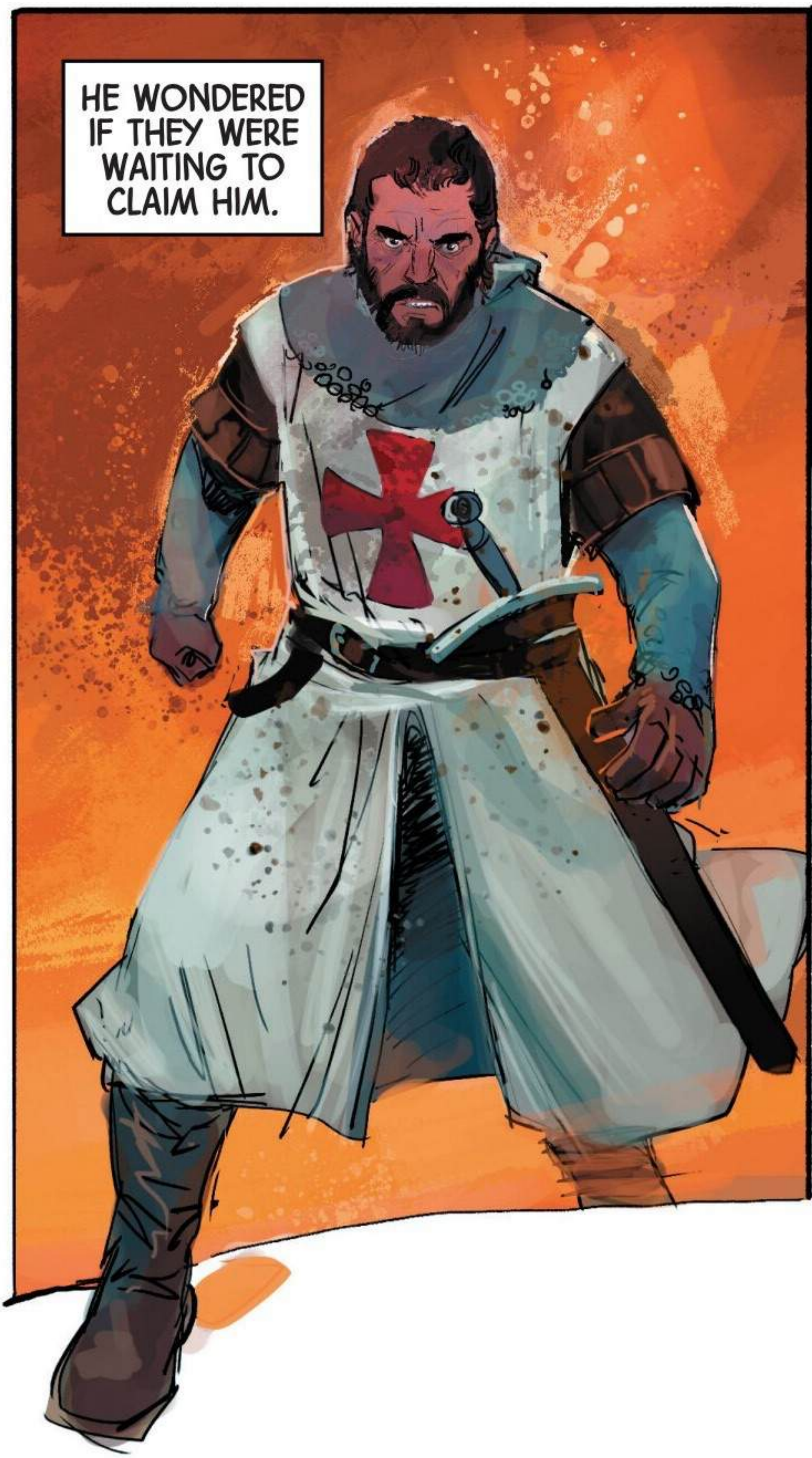
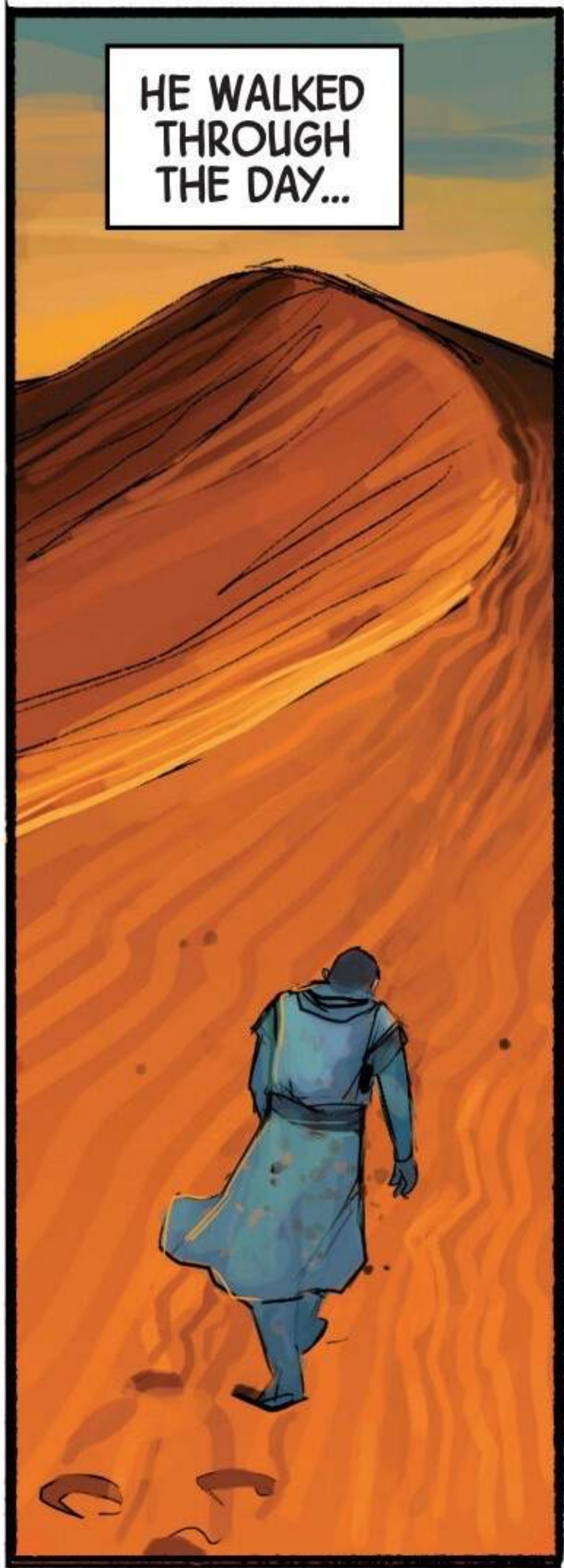


SO LONG AS
HE SAID YES TO
KHONSHU...



...AND BECAME
HIS AVATAR.







AMONG THE DEAD WERE
CRUSADERS AND NORTH
AFRICANS ALIKE.



THEIR WAR HAD
BEEN CAUGHT
UP IN THE JAWS
OF ANOTHER.



HE FELT A
BUZZING
THEN...



...AND THE SILVER
SCARAB TOOK FLIGHT.



THE BODIES, CASSIAN
NOW UNDERSTOOD,
WERE A *FENCE*.



CASSIAN COULD HEAR,
AMID THE WHIP
CRACKS AND STONE
SCRAPES AND CREAKING
ROPES...A CHANT...



"EN SABAH NUR,"
THEY SAID IN
UNISON.

"EN SABAH NUR,
EN SABAH NUR,
EN SABAH NUR."



THE SOUND WAS LIKE
A WAR DRUM OR A
DRAGON'S HEARTBEAT.

THEIR VOICES WERE
DIRECTED AT A
FIGURE ON A RISE
OVERLOOKING THE
CONSTRUCTION.



EN SABAH NUR.

THE APOCALYPSE.

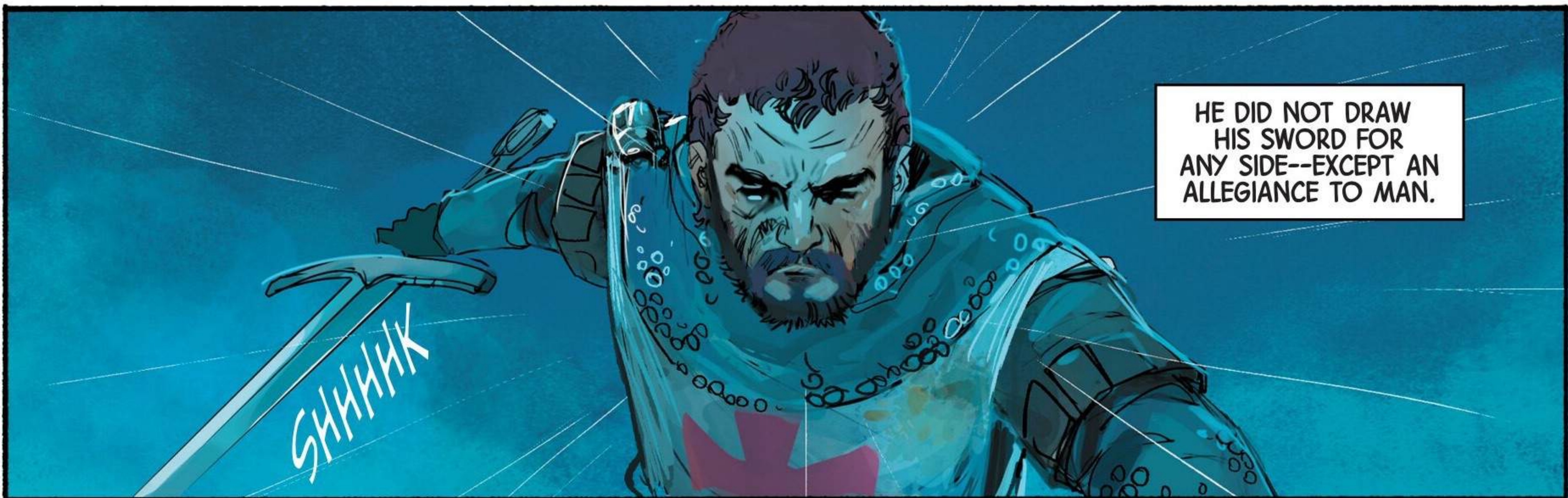


CASSIAN WAS BUT
ONE MAN, BUT SO
WAS EN SABAH NUR.

HE WAITED UNTIL
THE BAKING HEAT
OF THE DAY
EXTINGUISHED...



...UNTIL NIGHT OFFERED
HIM THE SHADOWS HE
WOULD TREAT LIKE ARMOR.



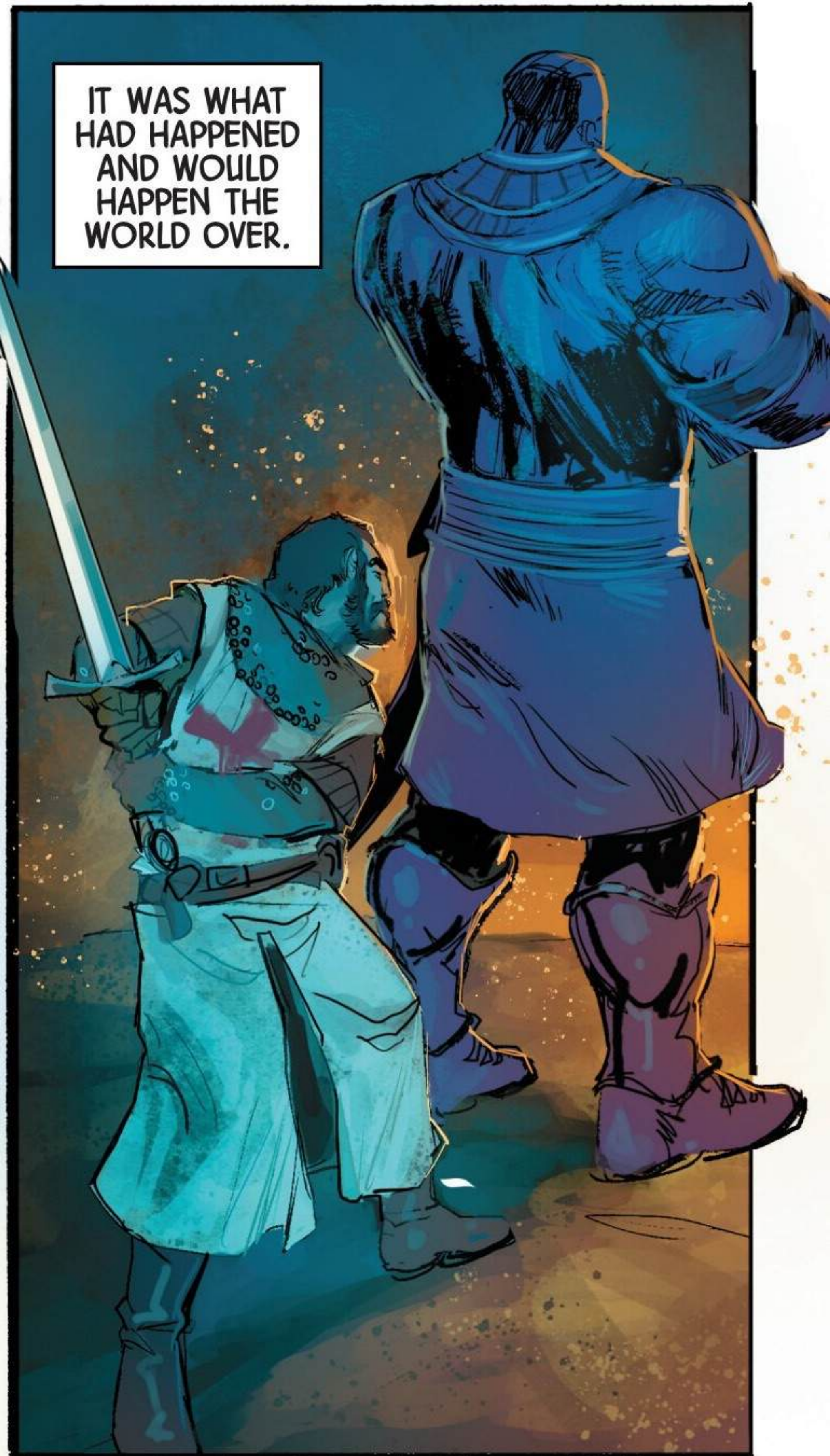
HE DID NOT DRAW
HIS SWORD FOR
ANY SIDE--EXCEPT AN
ALLEGIANCE TO MAN.



BECAUSE
WHAT WAS
HAPPENING
HERE...



...WAS WHAT
WAS HAPPENING
IN ENGLAND.



IT WAS WHAT
HAD HAPPENED
AND WOULD
HAPPEN THE
WORLD OVER.



KINGS BUILT ARMIES
THAT SLAUGHTERED THOSE
THEY DIDN'T ENSLAVE...

...AND THE SLAVES IN TURN
BUILT CASTLES AND
PYRAMIDS FOR THE KINGS
TO HIDE AND RULE INSIDE.



THIS WAS A WAR
CASSIAN COULD
DEVOTE HIMSELF TO.

A WAR AGAINST
POWER.



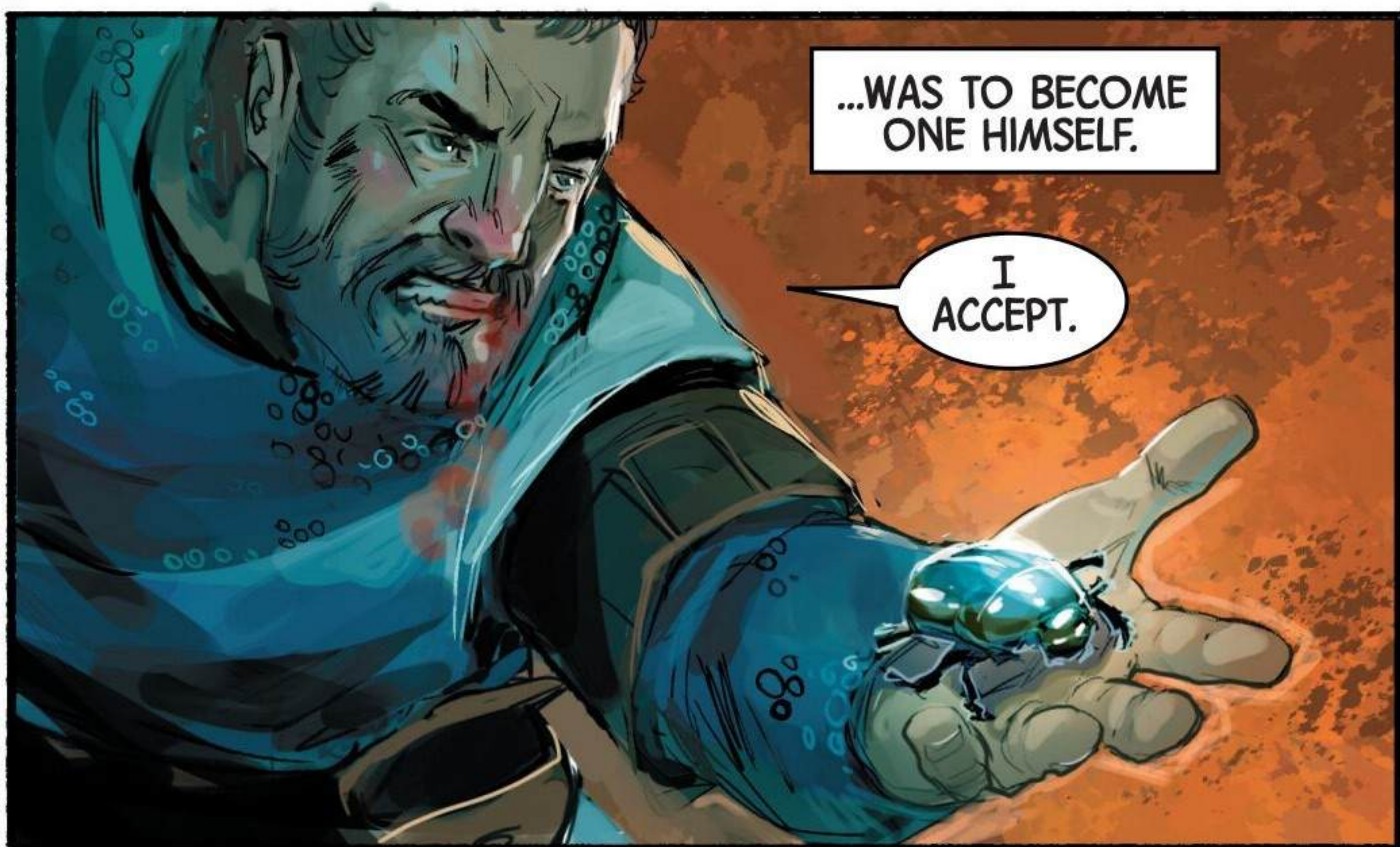
BUT THE STEEL
HE BELIEVED
IN SHATTERED.



AND THE FLESH HE
BELIEVED IN BROKE
AND BLED.



HE KNEW THAT
THE ONLY WAY
TO FIGHT A
MONSTER...



...WAS TO BECOME
ONE HIMSELF.

I
ACCEPT.



I AM
YOURS--IF YOU
HELP ME.



AND SO
HE BECAME...

...THE MOON
KNIGHT.



ACCORDING TO
THE GLYPHS IN A
FORGOTTEN TEMPLE...

...THE BATTLE BETWEEN
THE TWO LASTED
THROUGH THE NIGHT.



JUST BEFORE
DAWN, THE VICTOR
CLIMBED THE TEMPLE...

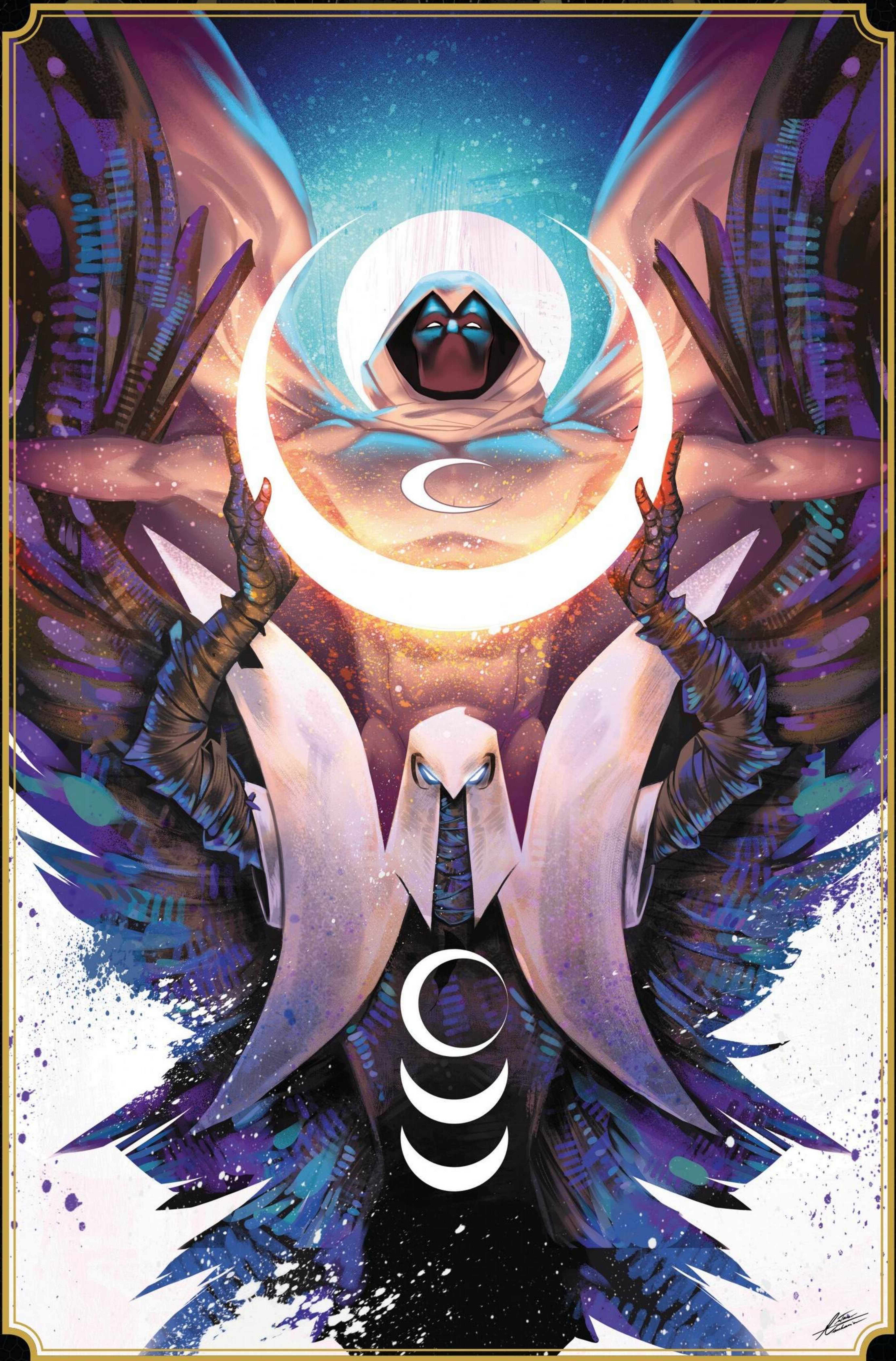
...A TEMPLE
THAT WAS NOW
A TOMB.



AND AS EVERYONE FELL TO
THEIR KNEES AND CRIED OUT,
"KHONSHU, KHONSHU..."

...CASSIAN COULD NOT
HELP BUT WONDER IF
HE HAD BECOME THE
VERY THING HE HATED.

END.



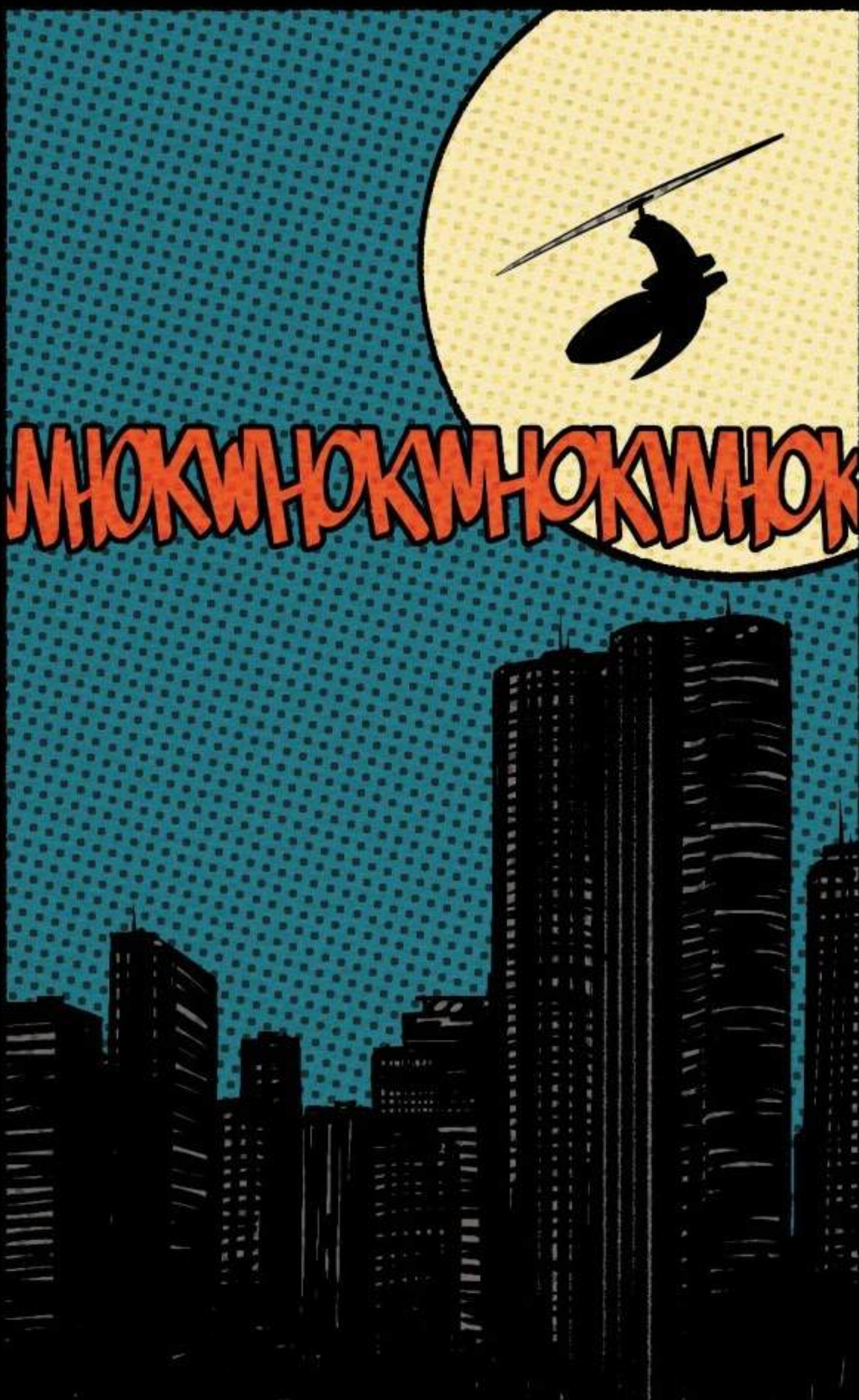
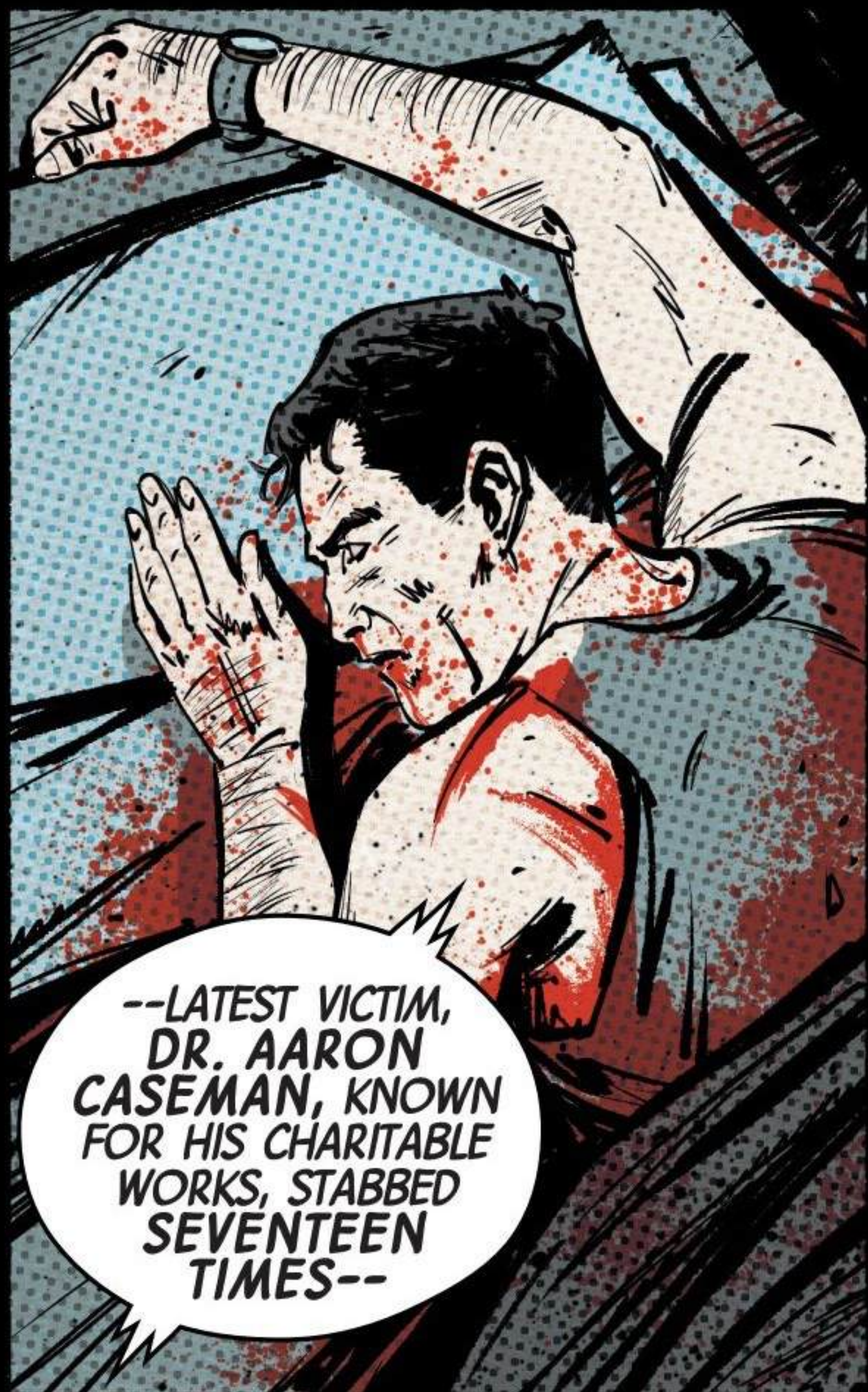
2

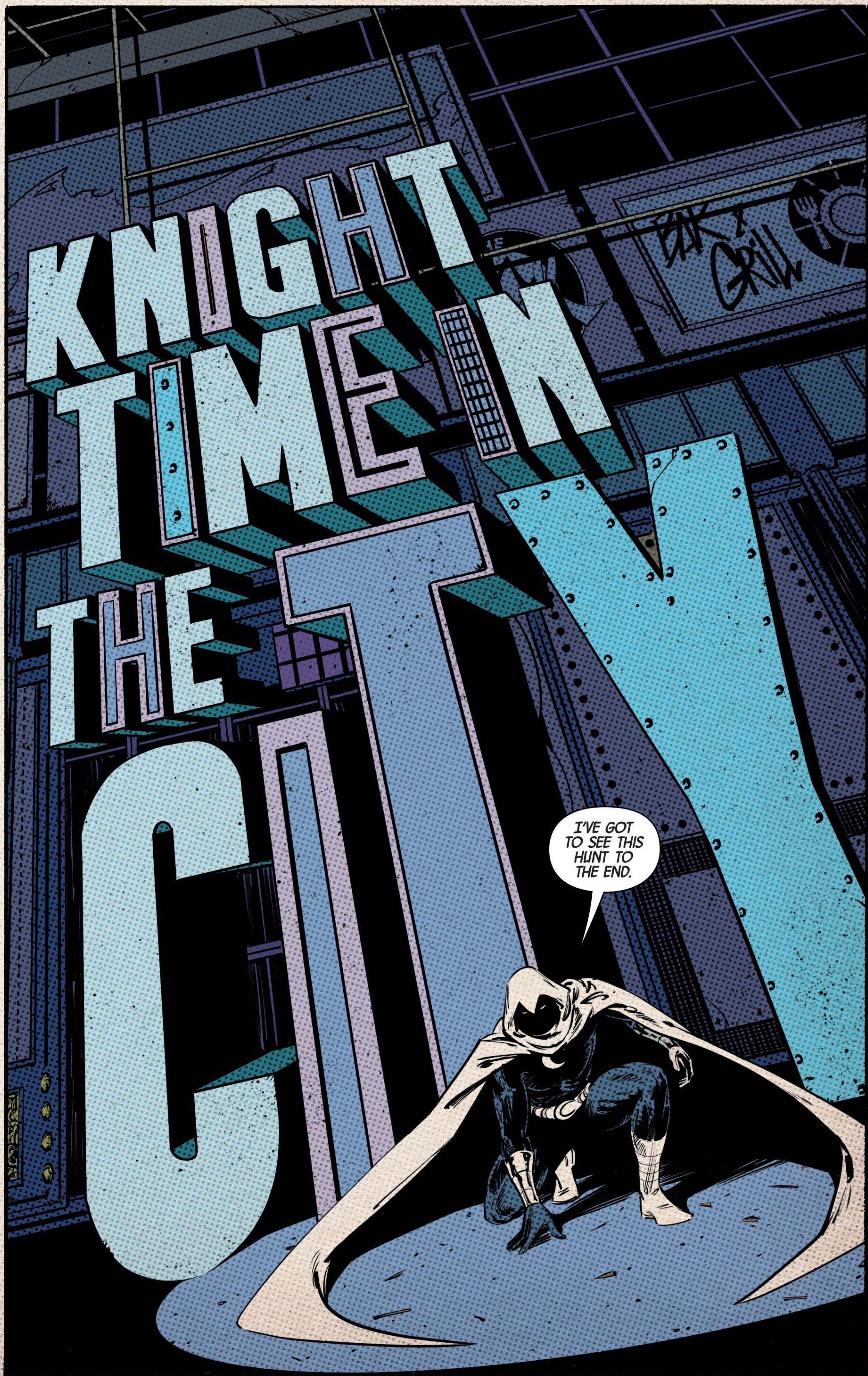
“KNIGHT TIME IN THE CITY”
“EKLEIPSIS”

--I'M ON HIS ASS, FRENCHIE, HE'S NOT GETTING AWAY THIS TIME--

--ANOTHER KILL FOR THE MURDERER THE PAPERS ARE CALLING THE "RIP-AND-TUCK"--SLASHER--

--FOUR PLASTIC SURGEONS MURDERED OVER THE COURSE OF THE LAST TWO MONTHS--







VIGILANTE.

I DON'T
KNOW YOU.

MOON
KNIGHT.

COME ON OUT,
"RIP-AND-TUCK
SLASHER."

LET'S
HAVE A *PROPER*
INTRODUCTION.



HEH.
STUPID
NAME.

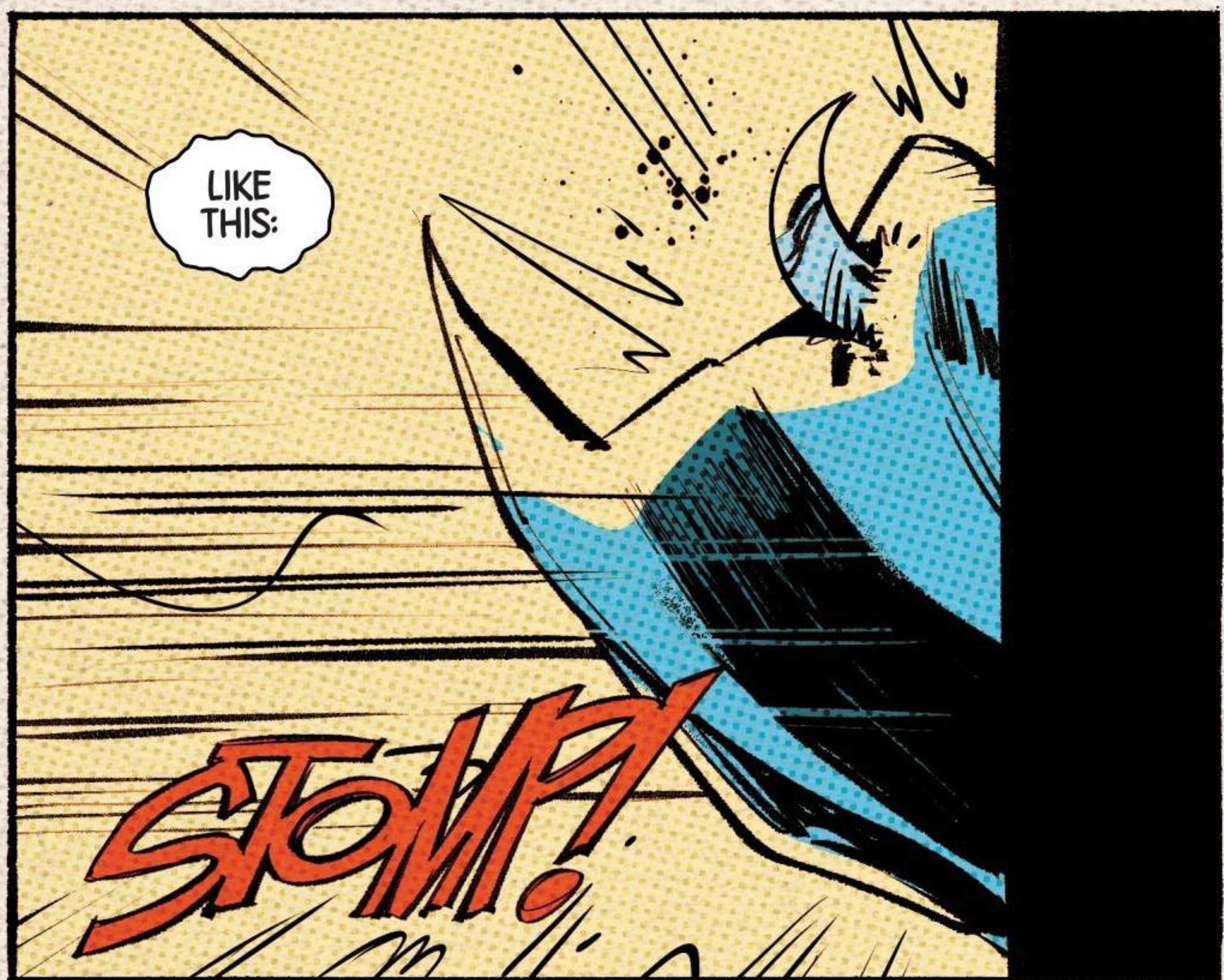
WHAT
SHOULD
I CALL YOU,
THEN?



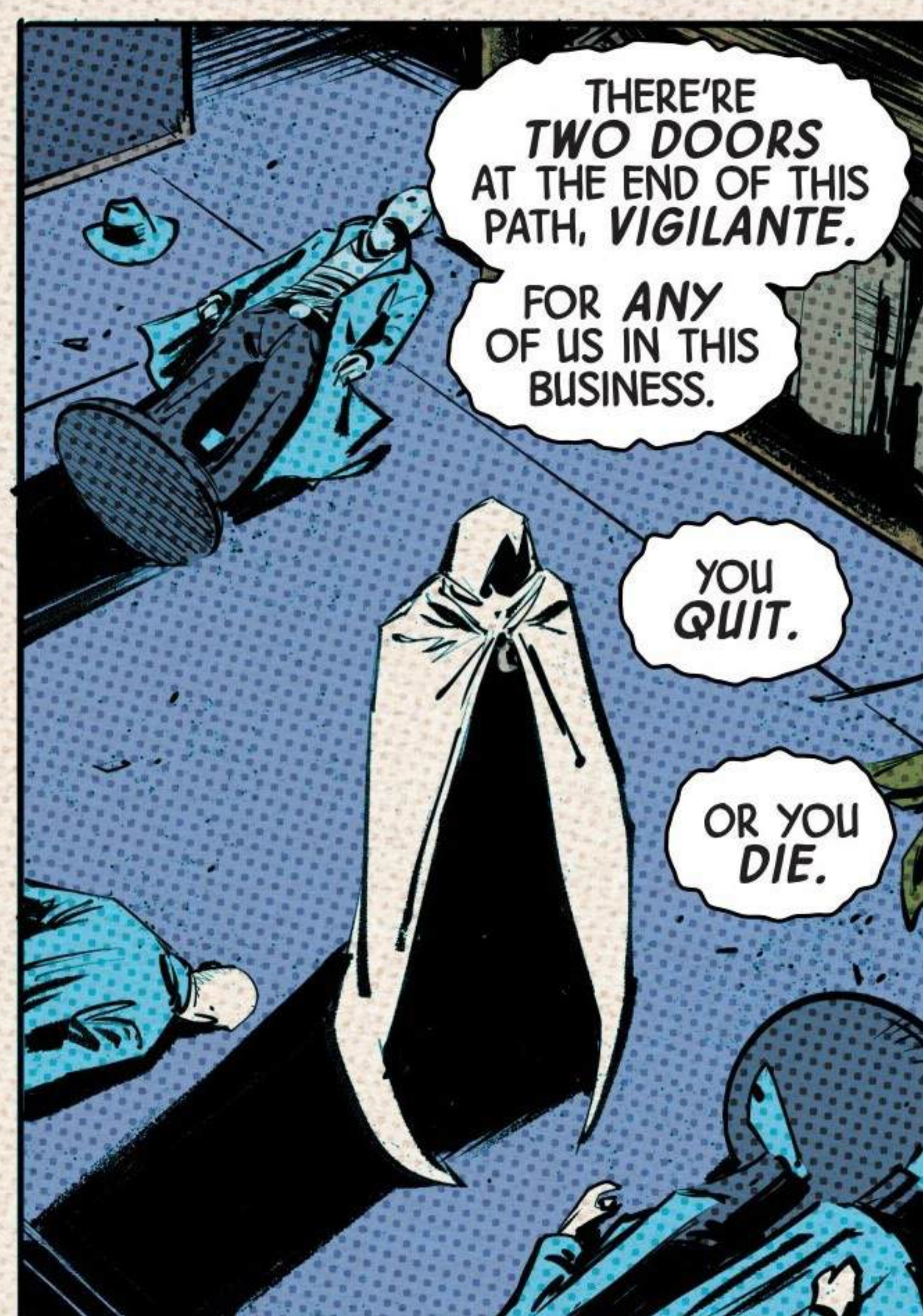
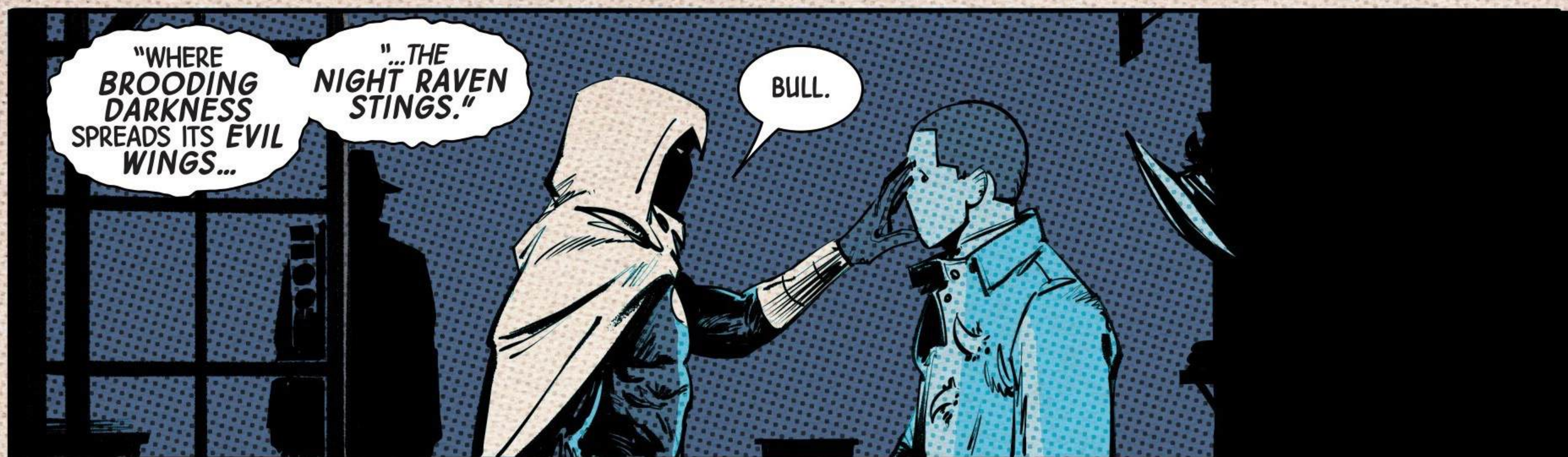
WHAT'S
YOUR MOTTO,
CRIMEFIGHTER?



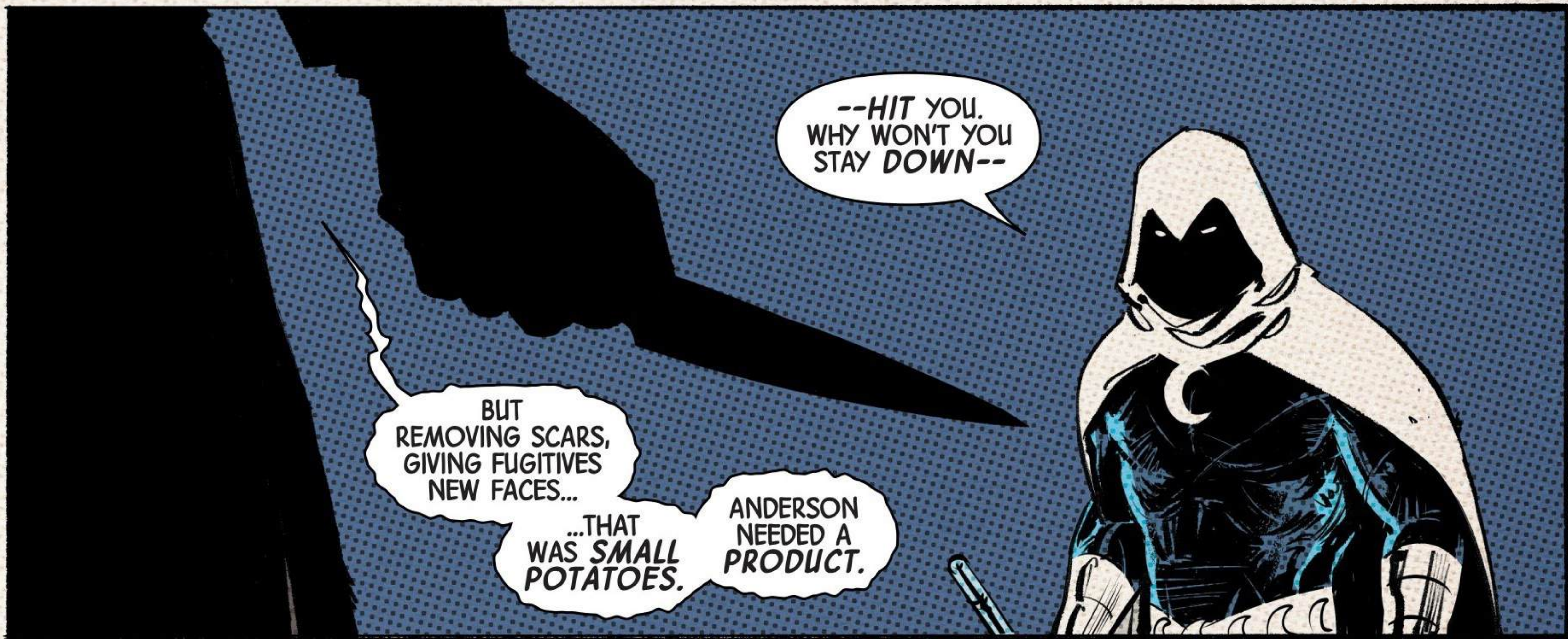
MOTTO?



LIKE
THIS:







--HIT YOU.
WHY WON'T YOU
STAY DOWN--

BUT
REMOVING SCARS,
GIVING FUGITIVES
NEW FACES...

...THAT
WAS **SMALL
POTATOES.**

ANDERSON
NEEDED A
PRODUCT.



"THE GANGSTER
EDMOND VACHON
HELPED HIM FIND IT.

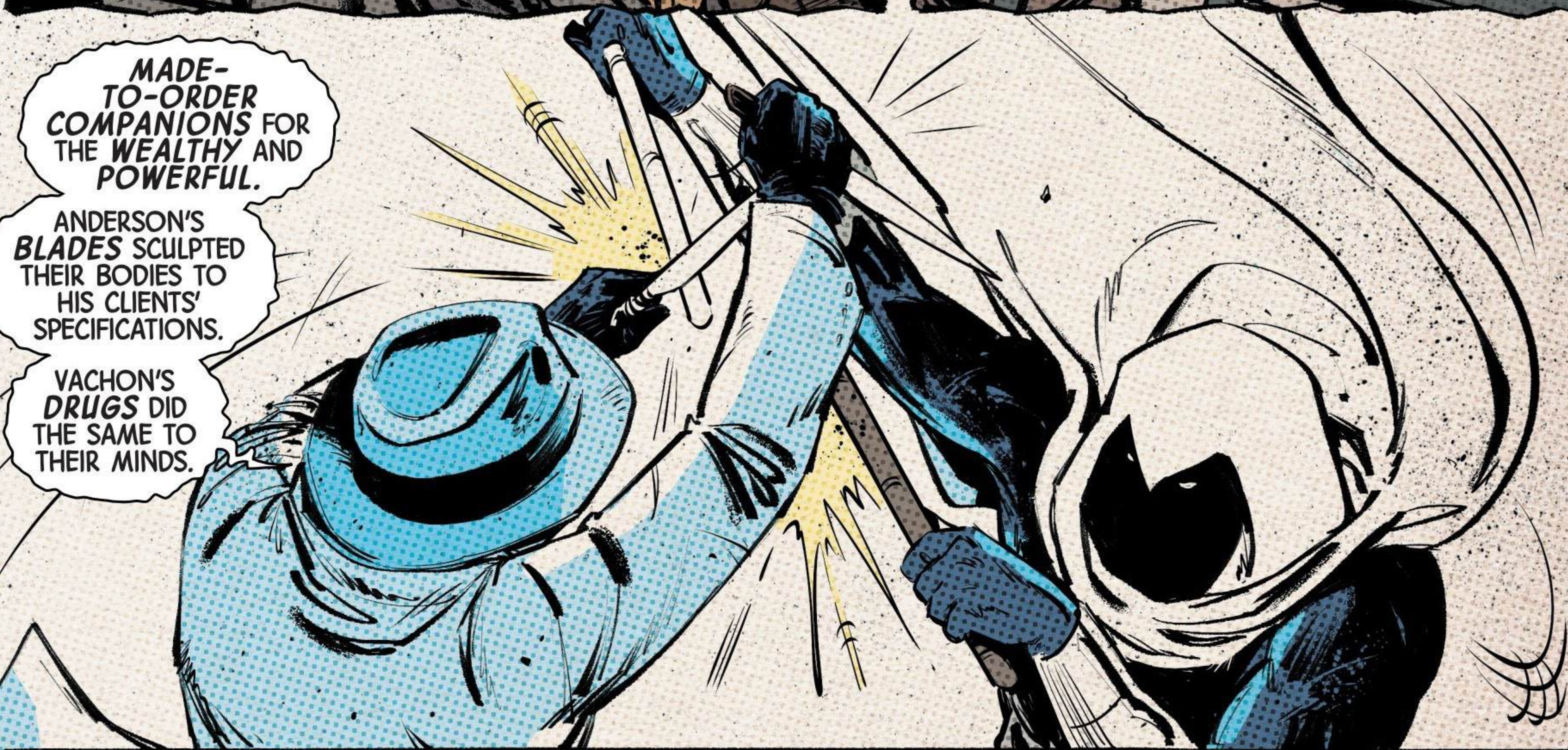


"PEOPLE."

**MADE-
TO-ORDER
COMPANIONS** FOR
THE **WEALTHY AND
POWERFUL.**

ANDERSON'S
BLADES SCULPTED
THEIR BODIES TO
HIS CLIENTS'
SPECIFICATIONS.

VACHON'S
DRUGS DID
THE SAME TO
THEIR MINDS.



I FOUND
OUT ABOUT THIS
ARRANGEMENT
IN 1929.

"I KILLED EVERYONE
I COULD GET MY HANDS
ON, INCLUDING VACHON.

"EVERYONE BUT
ANDERSON."

I WAS
YOUNG. LIKE
YOU ARE.

NEW TO
CRIME-BUSTING.

"HE PROMISED ME THAT
HE WOULD SPEND THE REST
OF HIS LIFE REPENTING.

"WOULD GO STRAIGHT,
HELP PEOPLE, IF I'D JUST
GIVE HIM THE CHANCE.

"I TOLD HIM
'OKAY.'"

"BUT I LEFT HIM
WITH SOMETHING
SO THAT HE'D
NEVER FORGET THAT
I WAS WATCHING."



I DON'T CARE ABOUT WHAT YOU DID IN 1929, YOU CRAZY ANCIENT BASTARD.

YOU'VE MURDERED FOUR DOCTORS IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS.



SO YOU'RE KILLING COSMETIC SURGEONS **NOW** BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T KILL ONE IN '29?



YES.



I SAID I'D WATCH ANDERSON.

BUT SOMETHING... HAPPENED TO ME. POISONED.

CHUD



"I WASN'T... MYSELF. NOT FOR A LONG TIME."*

*SEE NIGHT RAVEN: FROM THE MARVEL UK VAULTS.





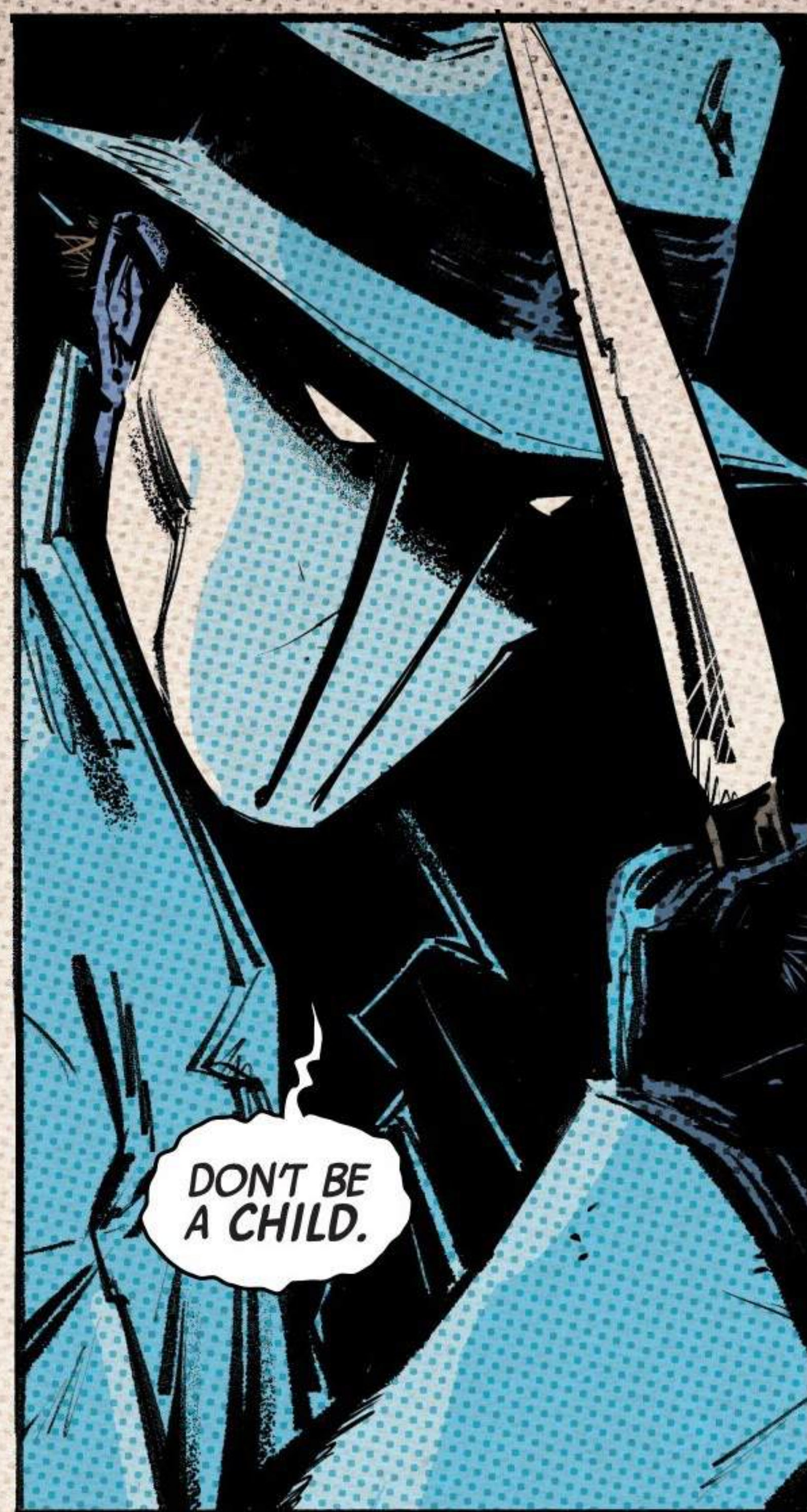
FIVE DOCTORS CONTINUE HIS OPERATION TODAY.

I KILLED FOUR OF THEM.



YOU DON'T JUST GET TO KILL PEOPLE.

WORK WITH THE POLICE, BRING THEM TO JUSTICE--



DON'T BE A CHILD.



PILLARS OF THE COMMUNITY. PHILANTHROPISTS.

YOUR "JUSTICE" WAS NEVER GOING TO TOUCH THEM.



BUT I CAN.

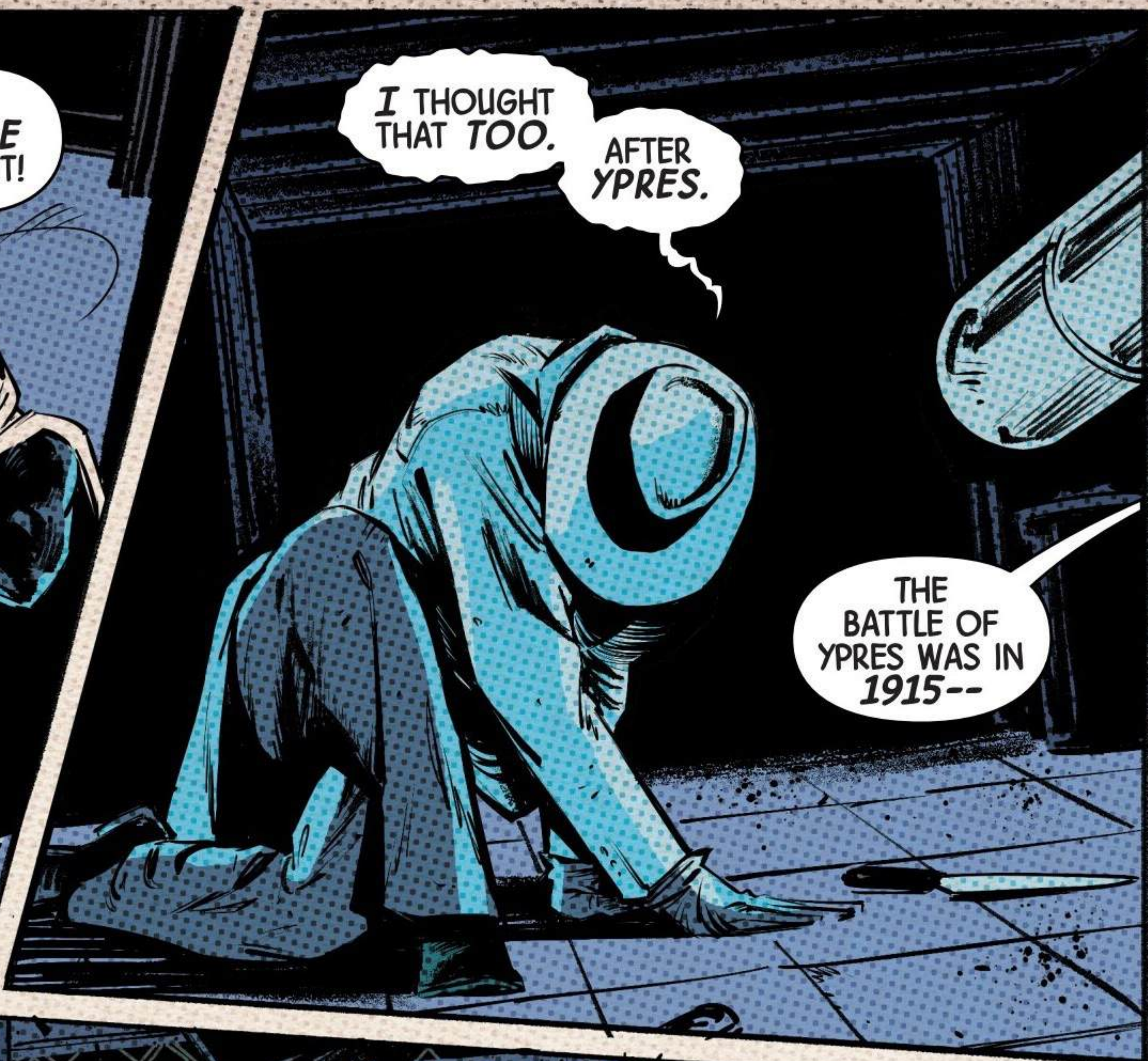
AND I HAVE.

AND I WILL, UNTIL MY DEBT FROM 1929 IS CLEARED.



I'VE SEEN ENOUGH KILLING!

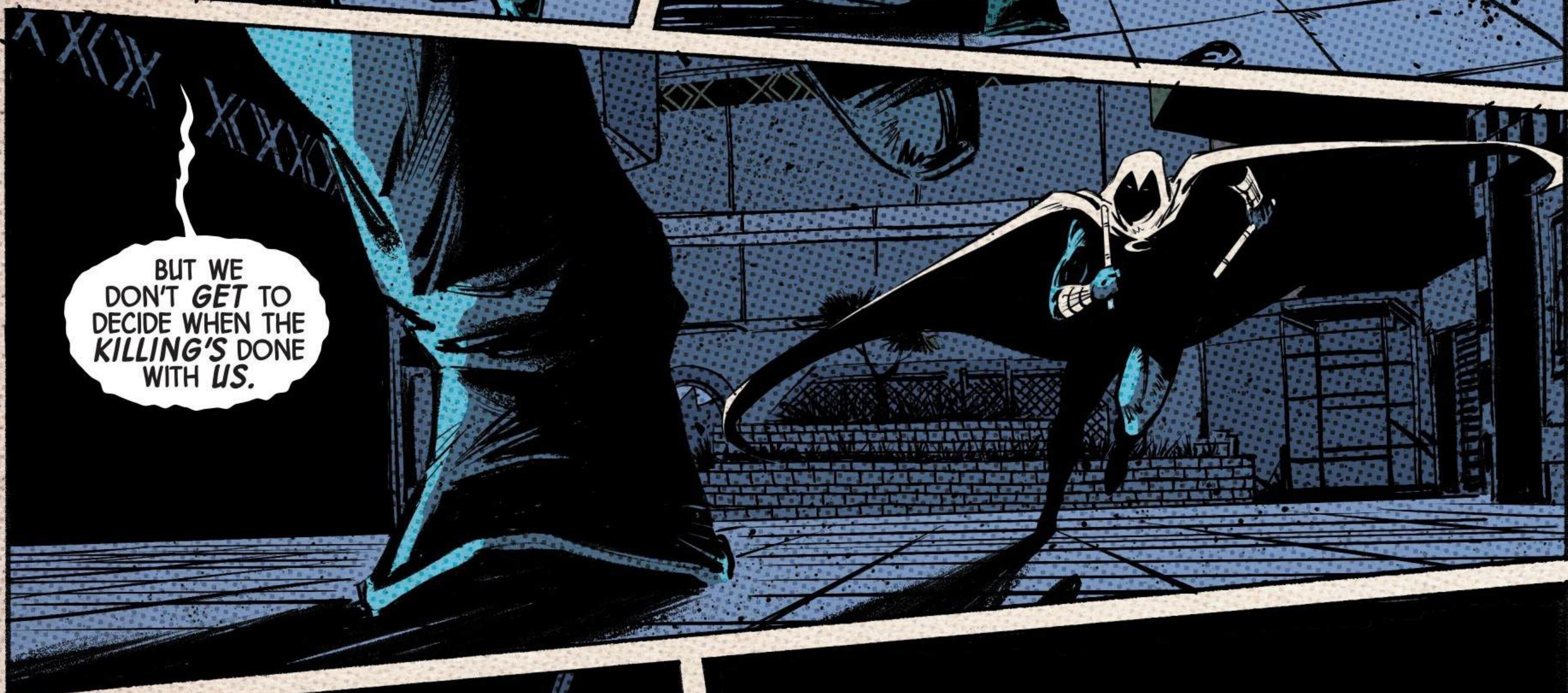
I'M DONE WITH IT!



I THOUGHT THAT TOO.

AFTER YPRES.

THE BATTLE OF YPRES WAS IN 1915--



BUT WE DON'T GET TO DECIDE WHEN THE KILLING'S DONE WITH US.



YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY--



WHAT I'M TRYING TO TELL YOU, MOON KNIGHT:

NO ONE EVER DOES.



LAST CHANCE.

WHAT'S IT GOING TO BE, VIGILANTE?

QUIT? OR DIE?

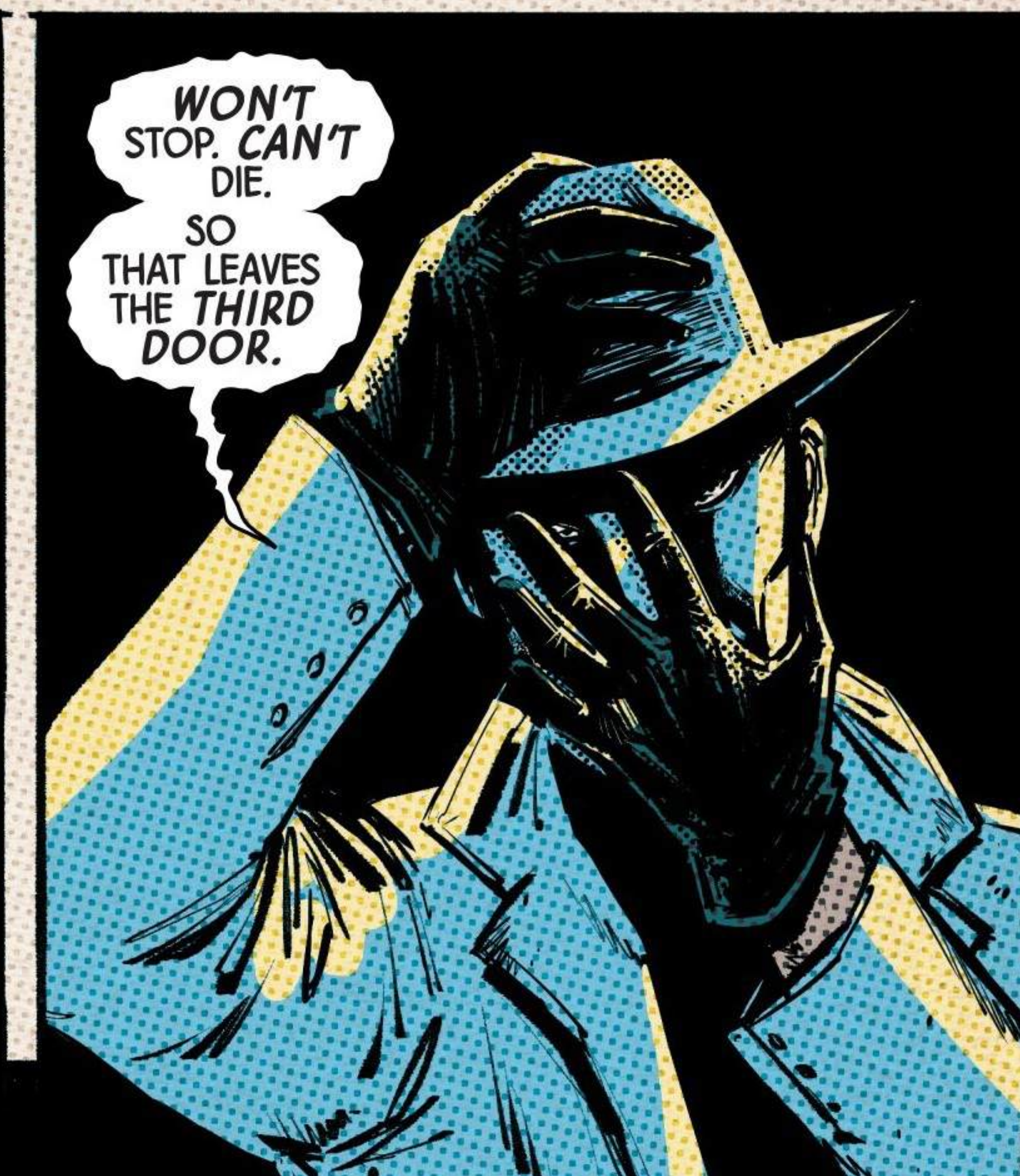


I'M MOON KNIGHT.

I DON'T QUIT.

AND I'M THE FIST OF KHONSHU.

I DON'T DIE.



WON'T STOP. CAN'T DIE.

SO THAT LEAVES THE THIRD DOOR.



THIS.





I'M
PASSING
THE TORCH,
MYSTERY
MAN.

YOU
WANT TO
CHOOSE WHETHER
HE LIVES OR
DIES?

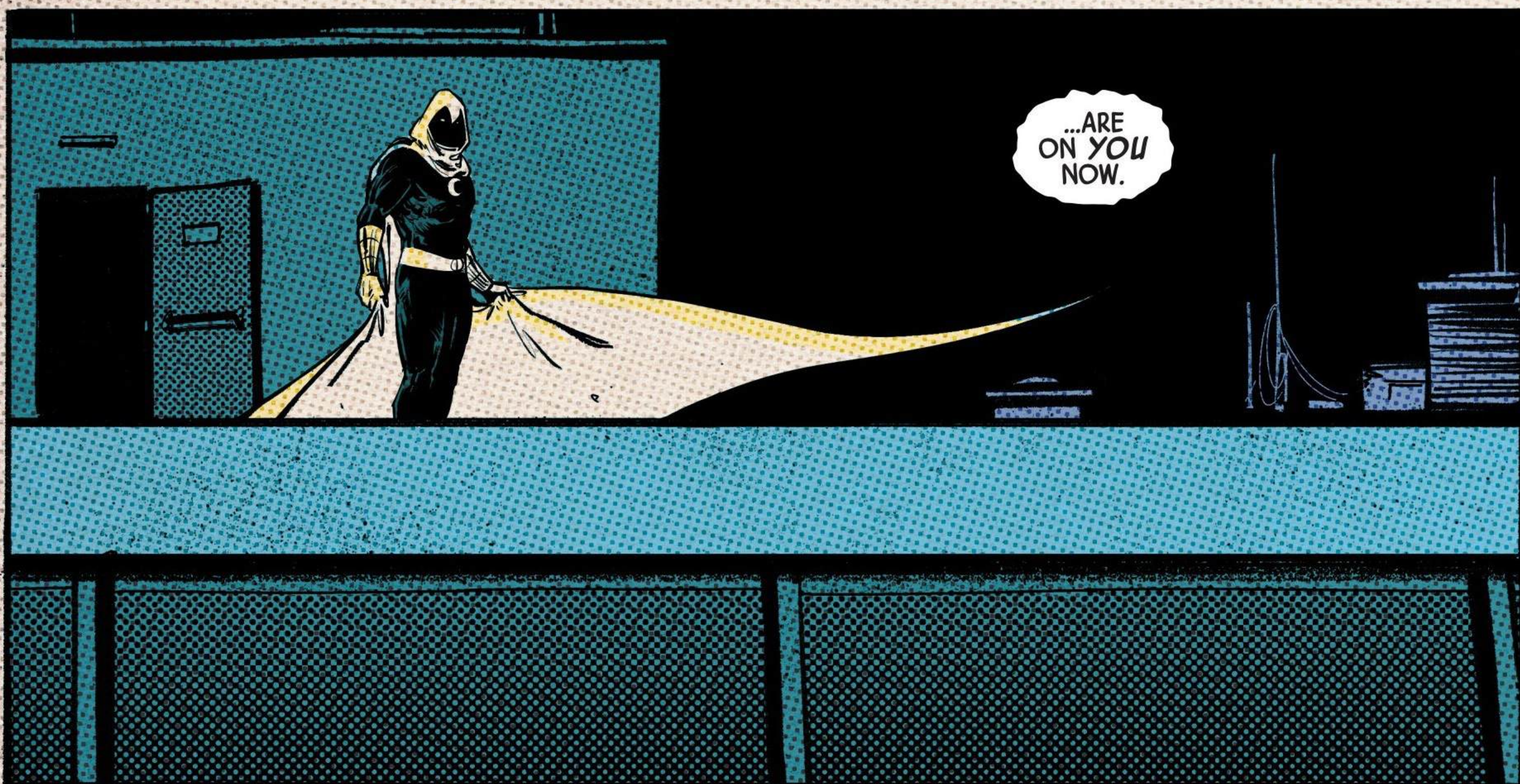
HE'S YOUR
PROBLEM
NOW.



AND THE
LIVES HE
RUINS...



...THE PEOPLE
HE TURNS INTO
THINGS FOR
MONEY...



...ARE
ON YOU
NOW.

ONE WEEK LATER.

IT'S NO GOOD.

GRANT MANOR.

DETECTIVE FLINT'S HANDS ARE TIED.

EVEN WITH ALL THIS EVIDENCE...NO ONE IN THE NYPD WILL GO AFTER COLE.

THE NIGHT RAVEN WAS *RIGHT*. NO ONE WILL *TOUCH* HIM. THE LIVES HE'S WRECKING ARE ON *ME* NOW.

WHAT I ASK IS *ACADEMIC*, BECAUSE YOU KNOW THAT *WHATEVER* THE ANSWER, I WILL *BE* THERE.

BUT: YOU'VE *COME FAR* SINCE SELIMA. FOR THE *BETTER*.

HOW *FAR BACK* ARE YOU WILLING TO GO TO SEE THIS THROUGH?

AS FAR BACK AS I HAVE TO.

ALL THE WAY BACK TO THE WILD-DOG DAYS.

to
MOENCH &
SENKIEWICZ,
WITH RESPECT AND
ADMIRATION.
Mackay & Fornés

THE YEAR 2846.

THE MOON
IS LEAVING.

THE ECLIPSIS
HAS BEGUN.



THE ARC OF TIME
MOVES SLOWLY,
WITHOUT REMORSE.



PLANETS SHIFT, AND THE
MOON IS PULLING AWAY
FROM THE ONCE BLUE
MARBLE OF EARTH.



THAT PLANET IS SUFFERING
FROM THIS DEPARTURE. TIME
IS FRACTURED, LIGHT IS
SCARCE AND CREATURES
MIGRATE ERRATICALLY. EVEN
THE TIDES HAVE TURNED UGLY.



HUMANS HAVE
CONTINUED TO
UTILIZE THIS EARTH
AND THRIVE.

NEVER TO IMAGINE
THE STARK EYE THAT
EVER WATCHED OVER
THEM WOULD ONE
DAY LOOK AWAY.

IT LOOKS TO
DESERT THEM.

NOT YOU, MY
MOON KNIGHT.

YOU AND I,
WE ARE
FOREVER
JOINED.

EVEN IN THIS PATHETIC
FORM. WHAT REMAINS OF THE
HUMAN SOL, HELD TOGETHER
BY SYNTHETIC BANDAGE
AND LUMINOUS COWL.

AND BY
MY WILL.

FOR I AM
THE LUNAR GOD
KHONSHU.

AND I
SEE ALL.



THESE HUMANS,
THIS CULT OF
KHONSHU, WORSHIP
ME. WISELY SO.

BUT THEY
CANNOT
HEAR ME.



THEY RECOGNIZE THE EKLIPSIS
AND BELIEVE THEY UNDERSTAND
ITS MEANING.

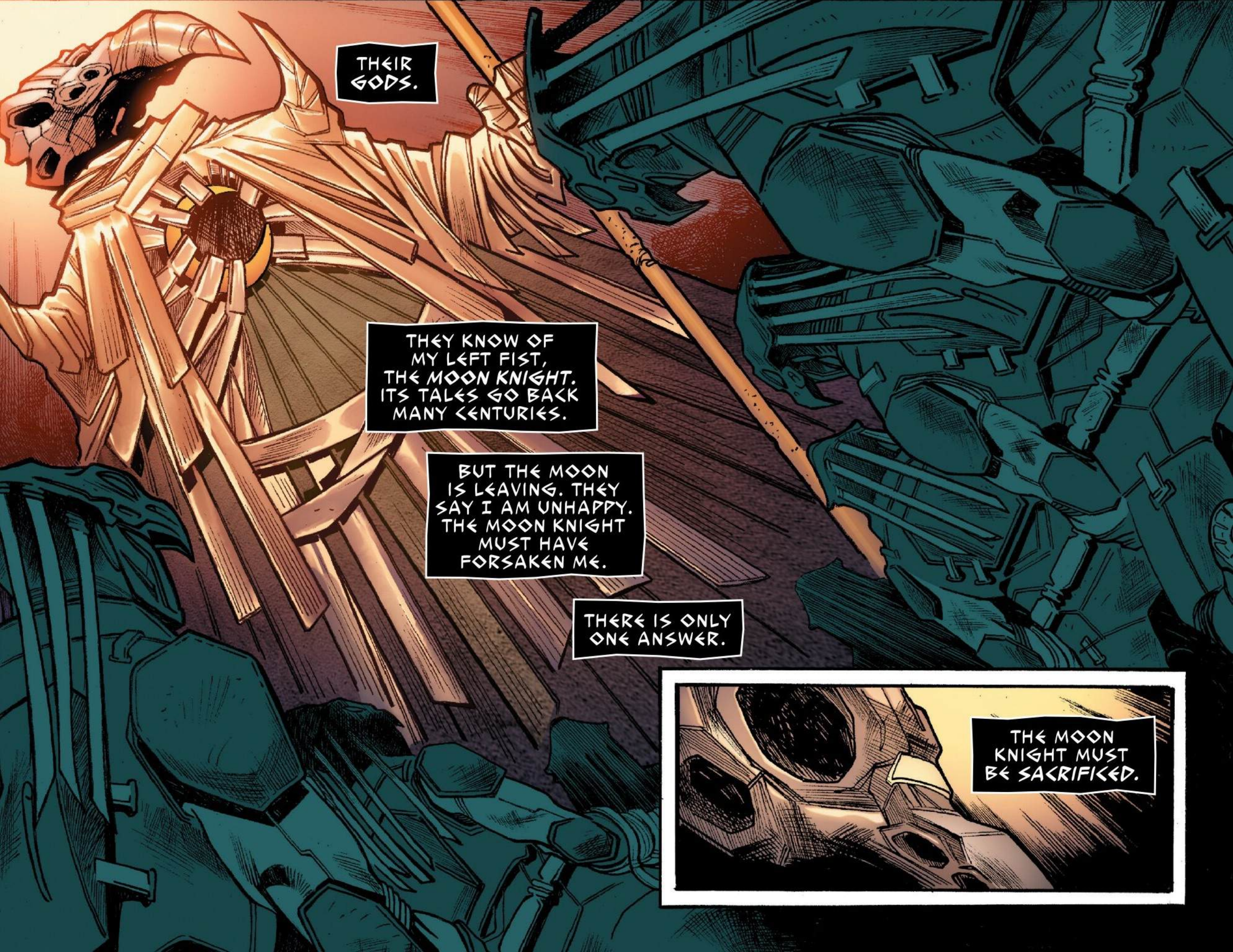
THEY
UNDERSTAND
NOTHING.



IN TIMES OF
DESPERATION,
HUMANS LOOK
FOR ANSWERS.
FOR SECURITY.

THEY CLING
TO THE PAST.

THEY LOOK FOR
ANSWERS FROM
THEIR BETTERS.



THEIR
GODS.

THEY KNOW OF
MY LEFT FIST,
THE MOON KNIGHT.
ITS TALES GO BACK
MANY CENTURIES.

BUT THE MOON
IS LEAVING. THEY
SAY I AM UNHAPPY.
THE MOON KNIGHT
MUST HAVE
FORSAKEN ME.

THERE IS ONLY
ONE ANSWER.

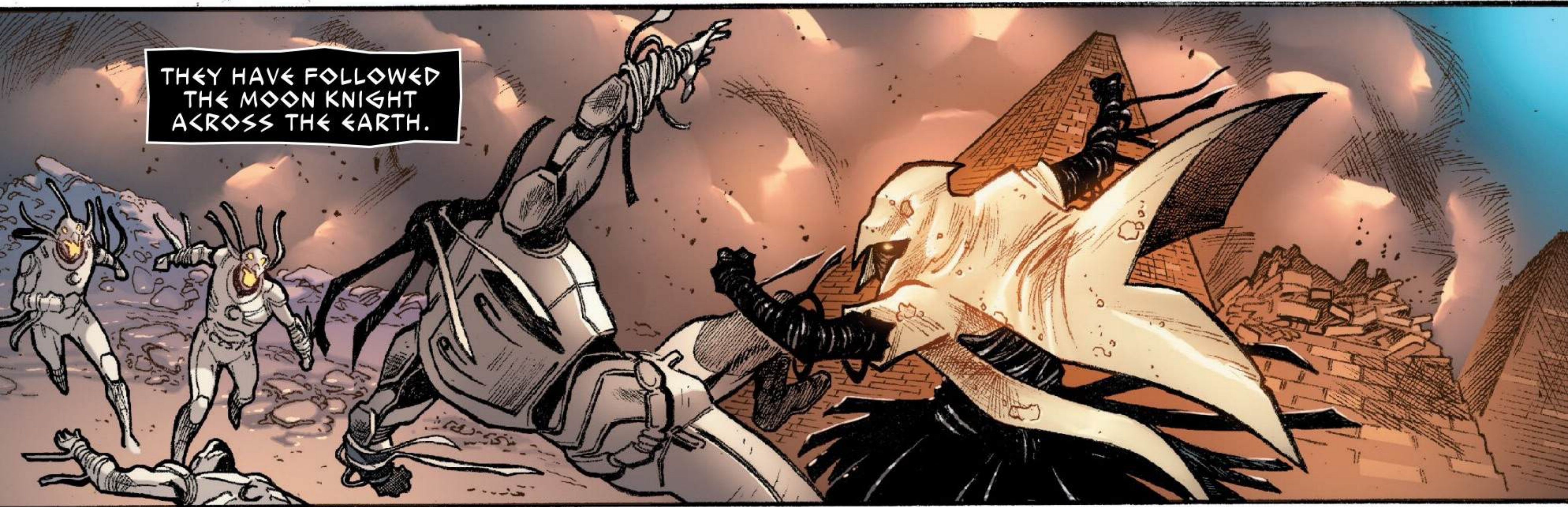


THE MOON
KNIGHT MUST
BE SACRIFICED.

THIS CULT OF KHONSHU
HAS AMASSED A
LARGE AND DEDICATED
FOLLOWING.



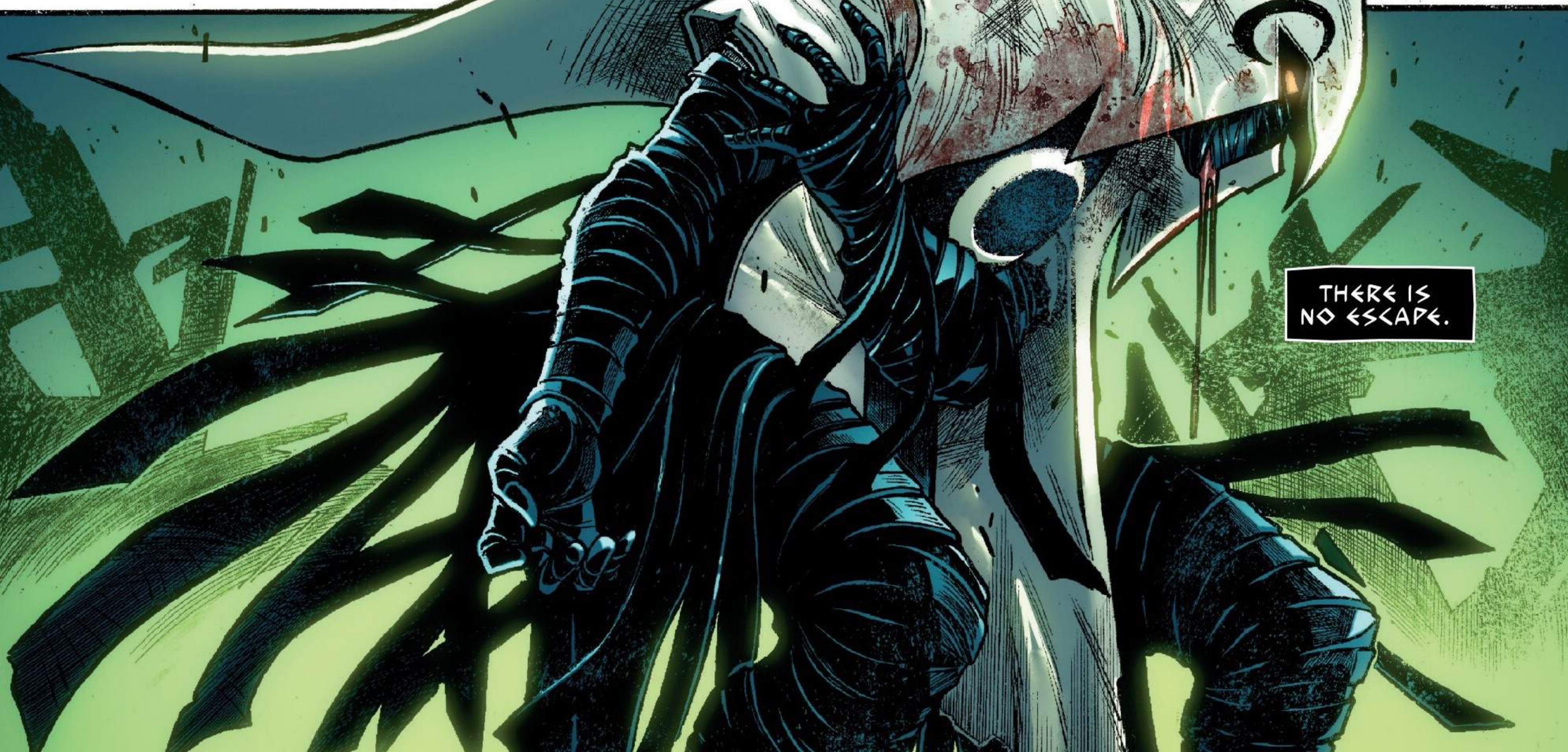
THEY HAVE FOLLOWED
THE MOON KNIGHT
ACROSS THE EARTH.



THROUGH
THE HIGHEST
MOUNTAINS
AND DEEPEST
VALLEYS.



THERE IS
NO ESCAPE.





THERE ARE FEW
PLACES LEFT
FOR IT TO FIND
SANCTUARY.



SOL.



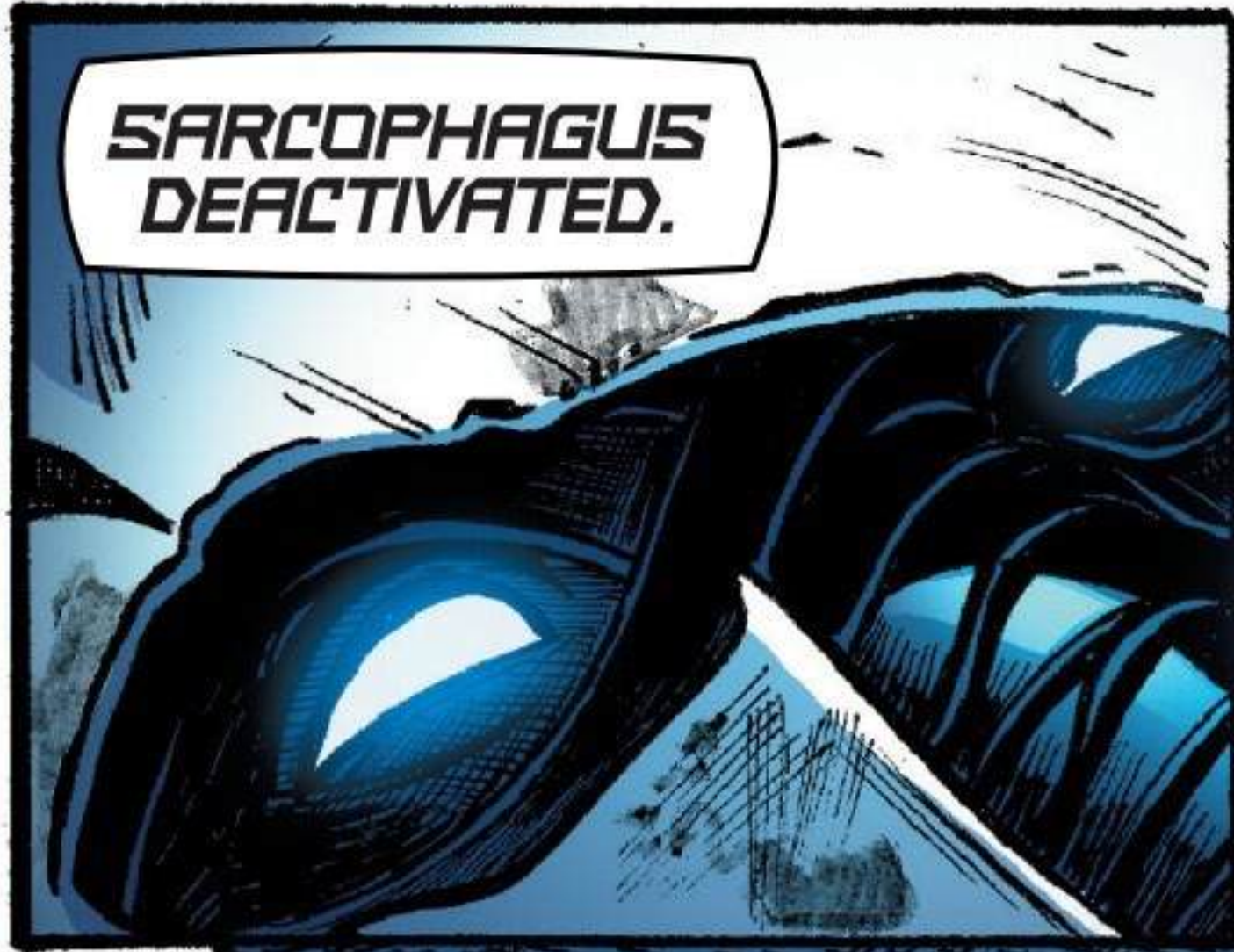
HEAR
ME.

BEEP

PROXIMITY
ALERT.



**WAKE
UP!**



SARCOPHAGUS
DEACTIVATED.



REGENERATION
CYCLE INCOMPLETE.
INTERNAL INJURIES
REMAIN.

LIFE
SIGNS
WEAK.

RECOMMEND SUBJECT
SQL FURTHER SIXTEEN
HOURS TO RETURN TO
ACCEPTABLE BIO LEVELS.

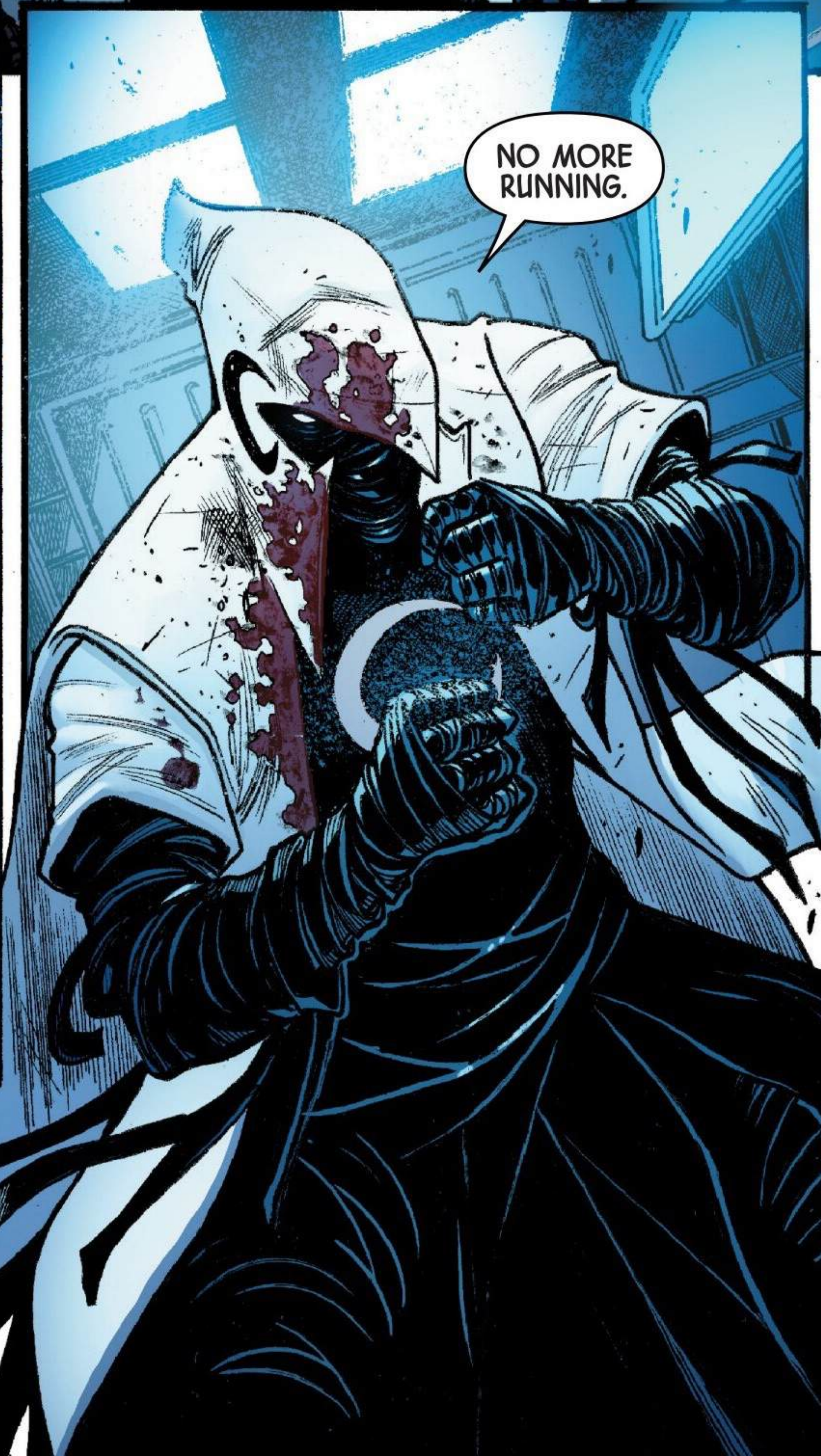


TAKEN UNDER
ADVISEMENT, DOC. I'D
TAKE **SIXTY** HOURS, IF
I COULD GET IT.

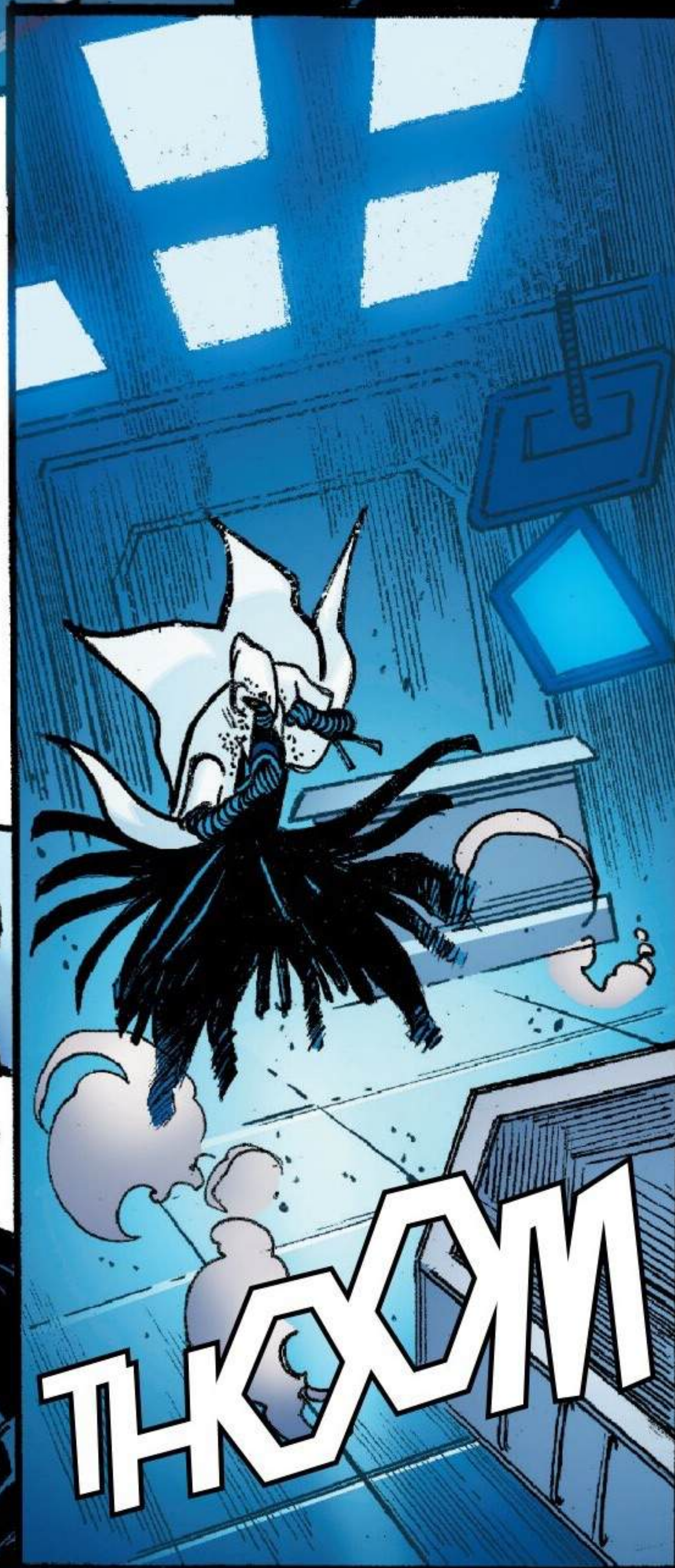
BUT I
DON'T HAVE THAT
LUXURY.



DAMN.



NO MORE
RUNNING.



THOOM



KAW.

KAW.

KAW.



KAW.

KAW.

KAW.

KAW.

KAW.



SOL.
HEAR ME.



YOU.

YOU ARE
MY FIST,
SOL.

I
KNOW.

IT SPEAKS!

THEN HEAR THIS,
SOL. THESE HORNETS
ARE NOT FIT TO
WORSHIP ME. THEY
MUST BE CRUSHED.

I'D BE
HAPPY TO.
BUT I'M...

...I'M
DYING.

AND THERE
ARE SO MANY
OF THEM.

IRRELEVANT.
I AM LONG
DEAD.

ACT AS I
WOULD. USE
THAT FIST.

TIGHTEN
YOUR GRIP...

...AND
STRIKE!

NOT BAD.
BUT NOT
ENOUGH.

IF YOU DO NOT
WISH TO BE THE
SACRIFICE, THEN
YOU MUST OFFER
ONE OF YOUR OWN.

YOU KEEP
COMING FOR ME.
YOU'VE CHASED ME
TO THE END OF
THE WORLD.

OVERLOAD
IN PROGRESS.

MY LAST MOVE
WAS TO LURE YOU
HERE, WHERE I HAVE
HOME ADVANTAGE...

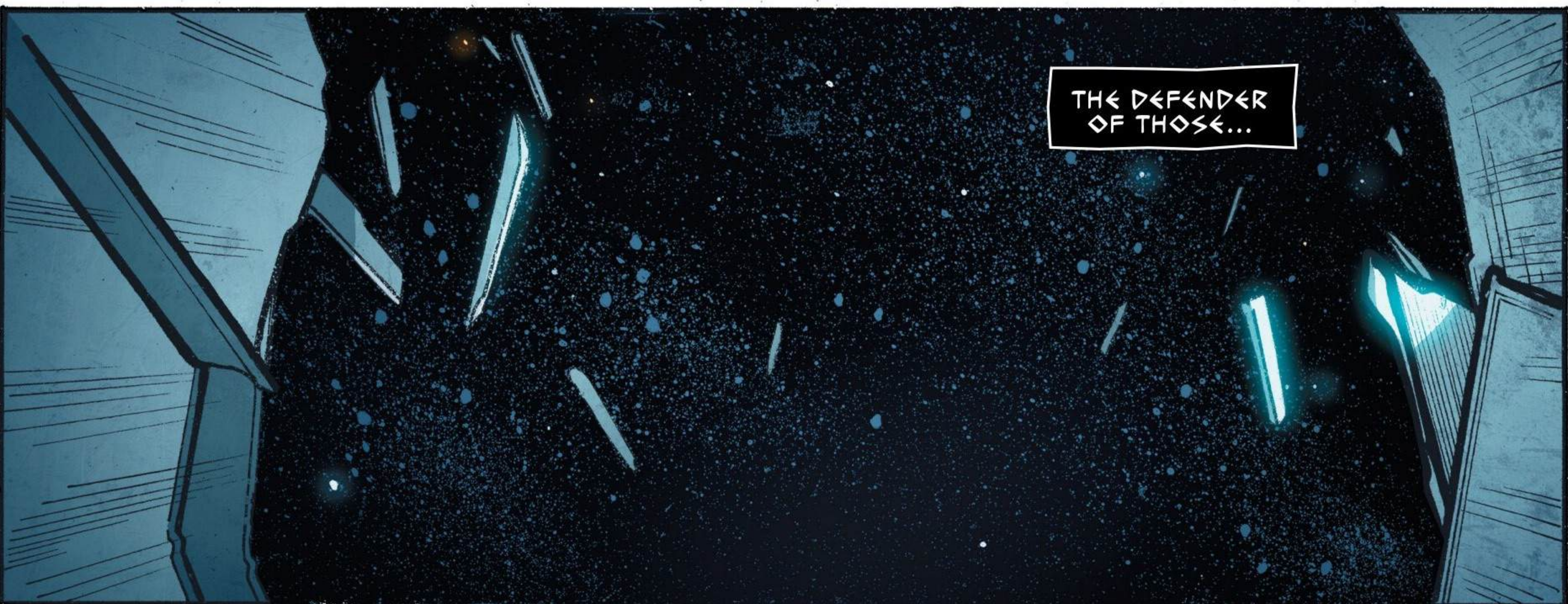
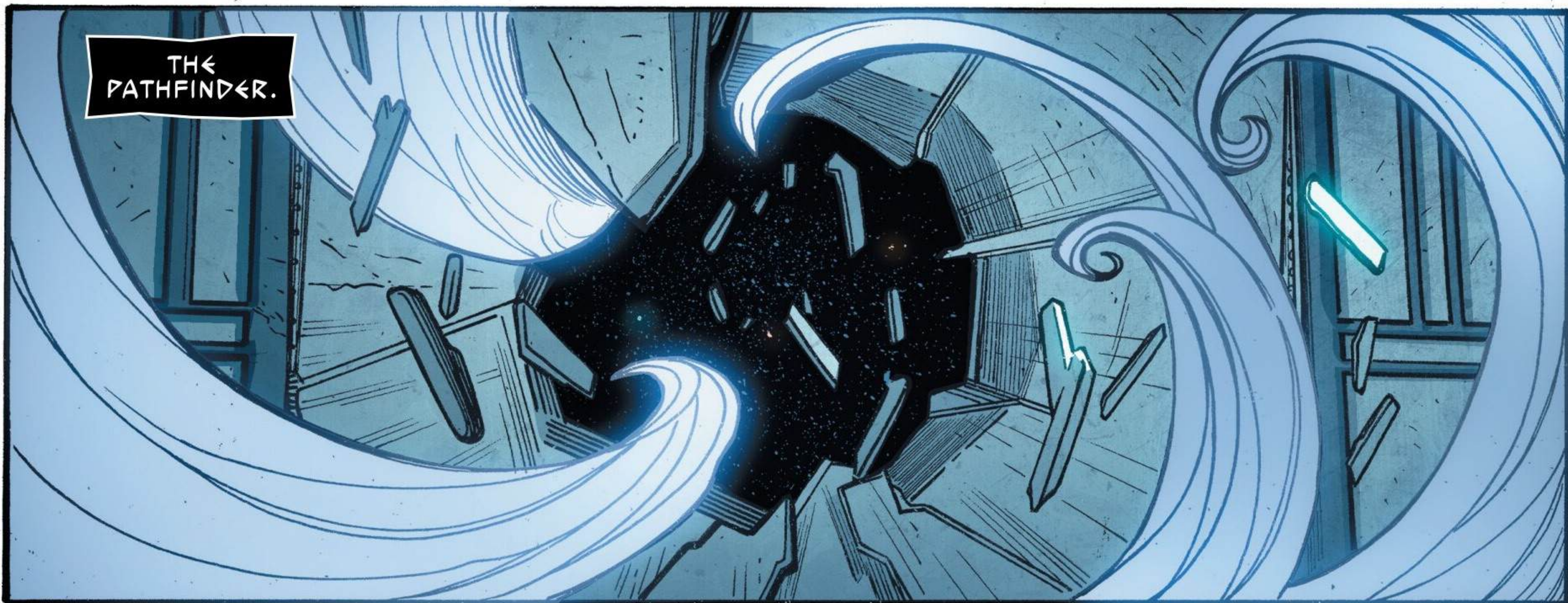
DESTRUCTION
IN THREE...

...TWO...

THE ONLY
CHOICE I HAVE
LEFT IS TO LET
YOU TAKE ME
OUT...

...ONE...

...OR TAKE
YOU ALL OUT
WITH ME.



...WHO
TRAVEL AT
NIGHT.

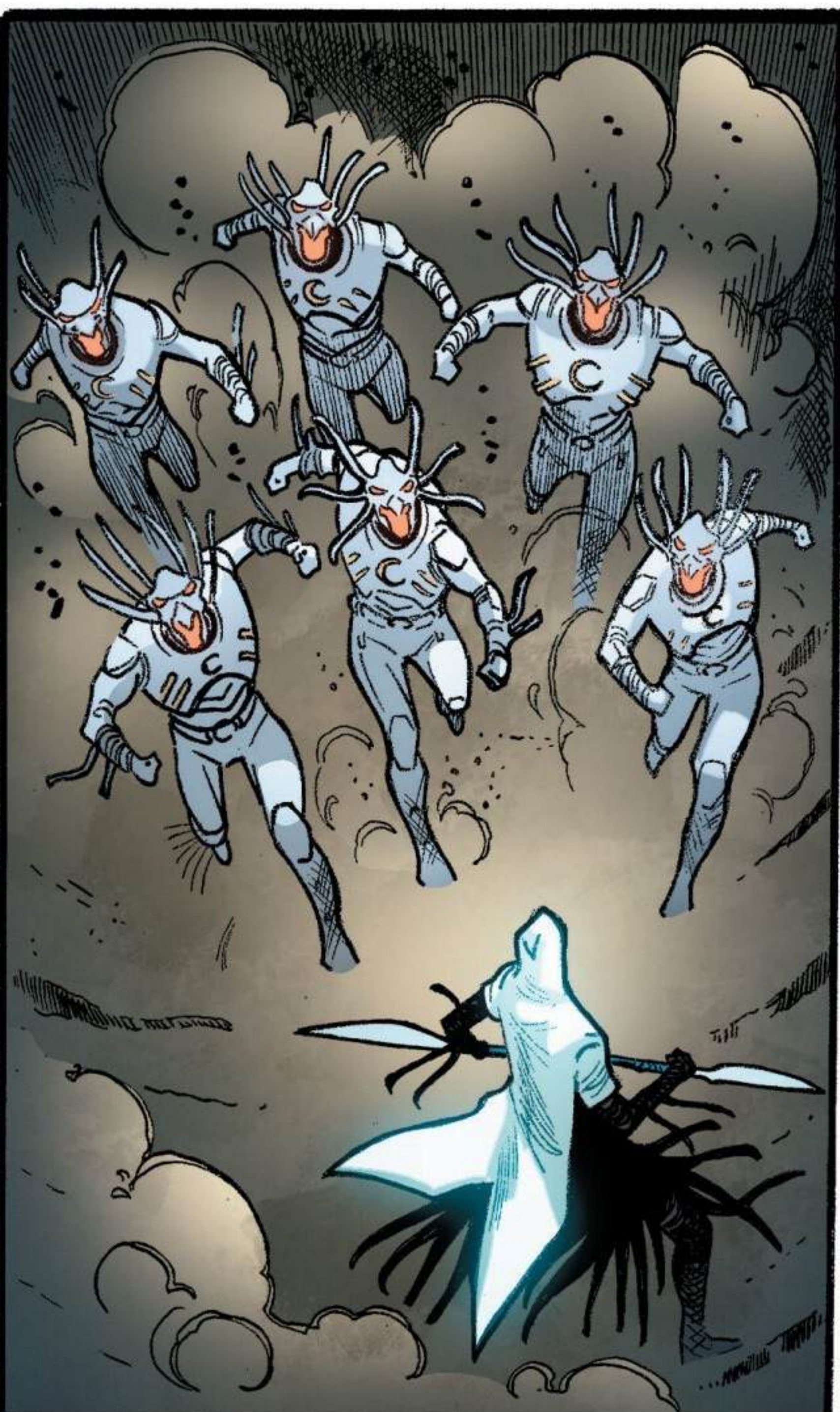
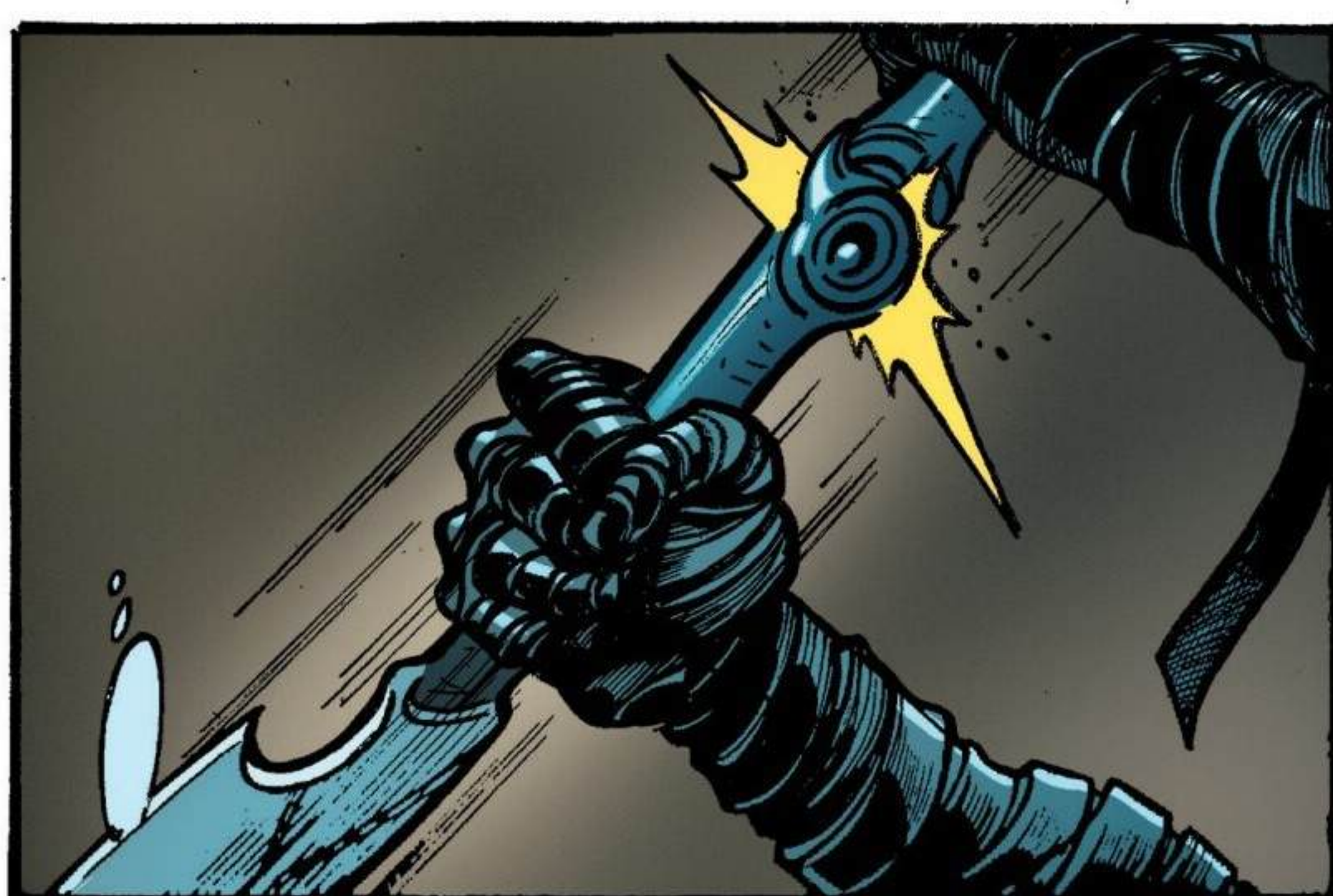




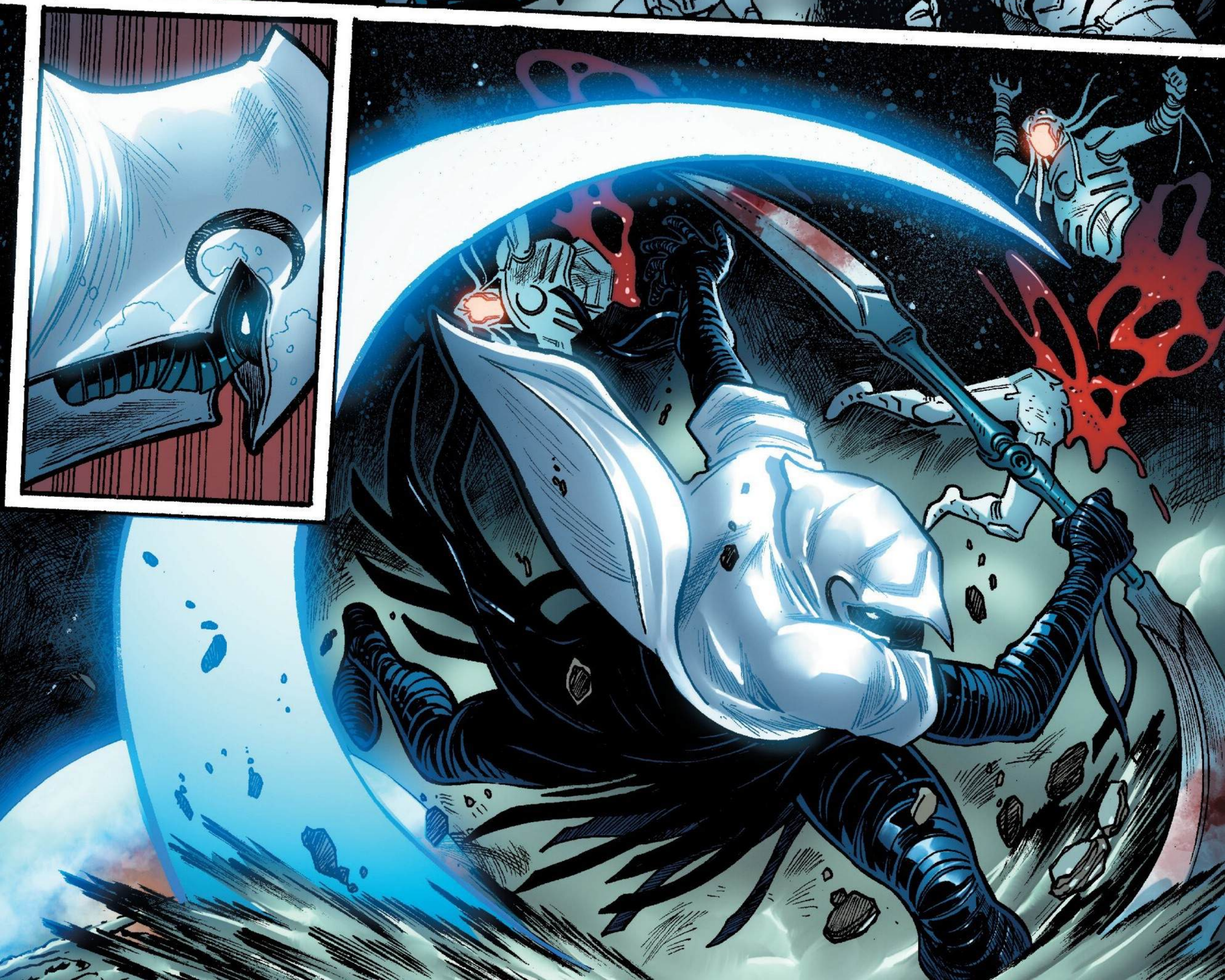
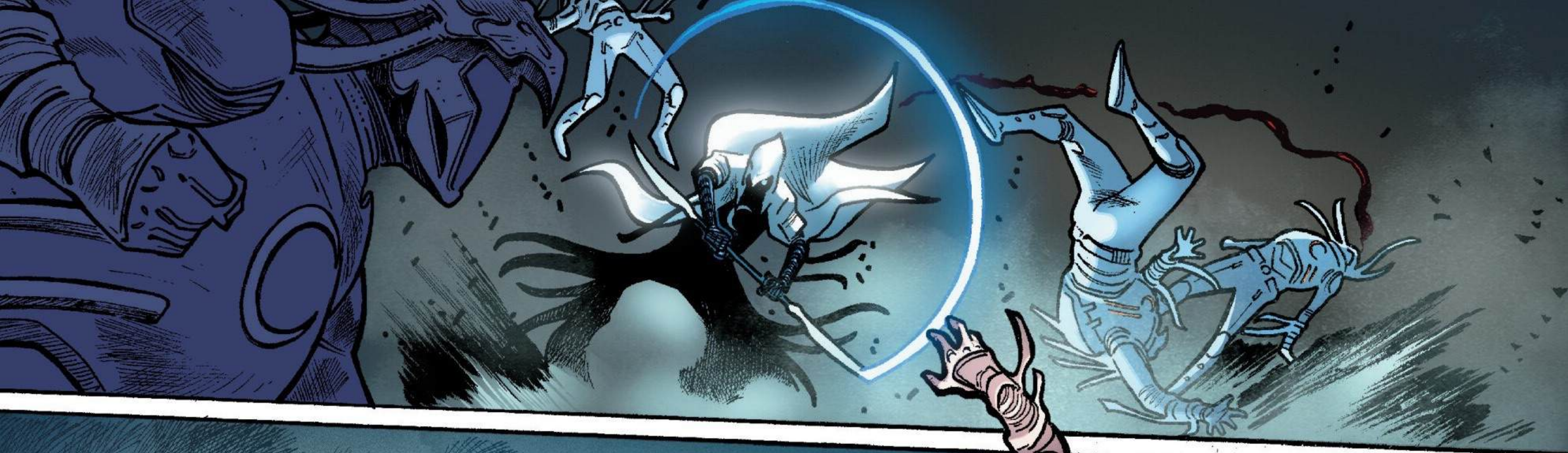
LUNA TRAVELS
A FOREVER
NIGHT, SOL.



HERE ON THIS
MOON AND
OTHERS...



...YOUR
POWER IS
INFINITE.

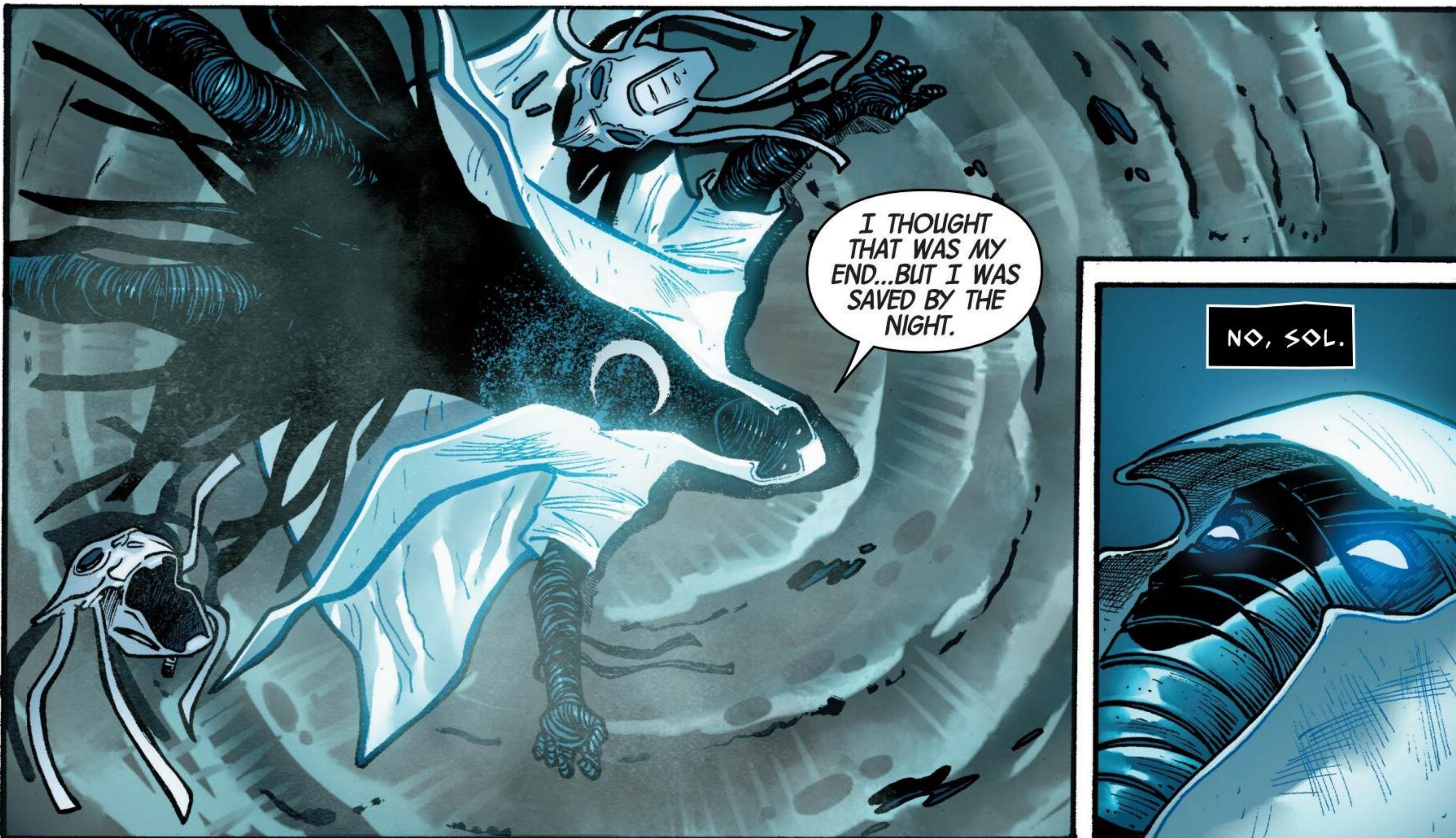




UGHN.



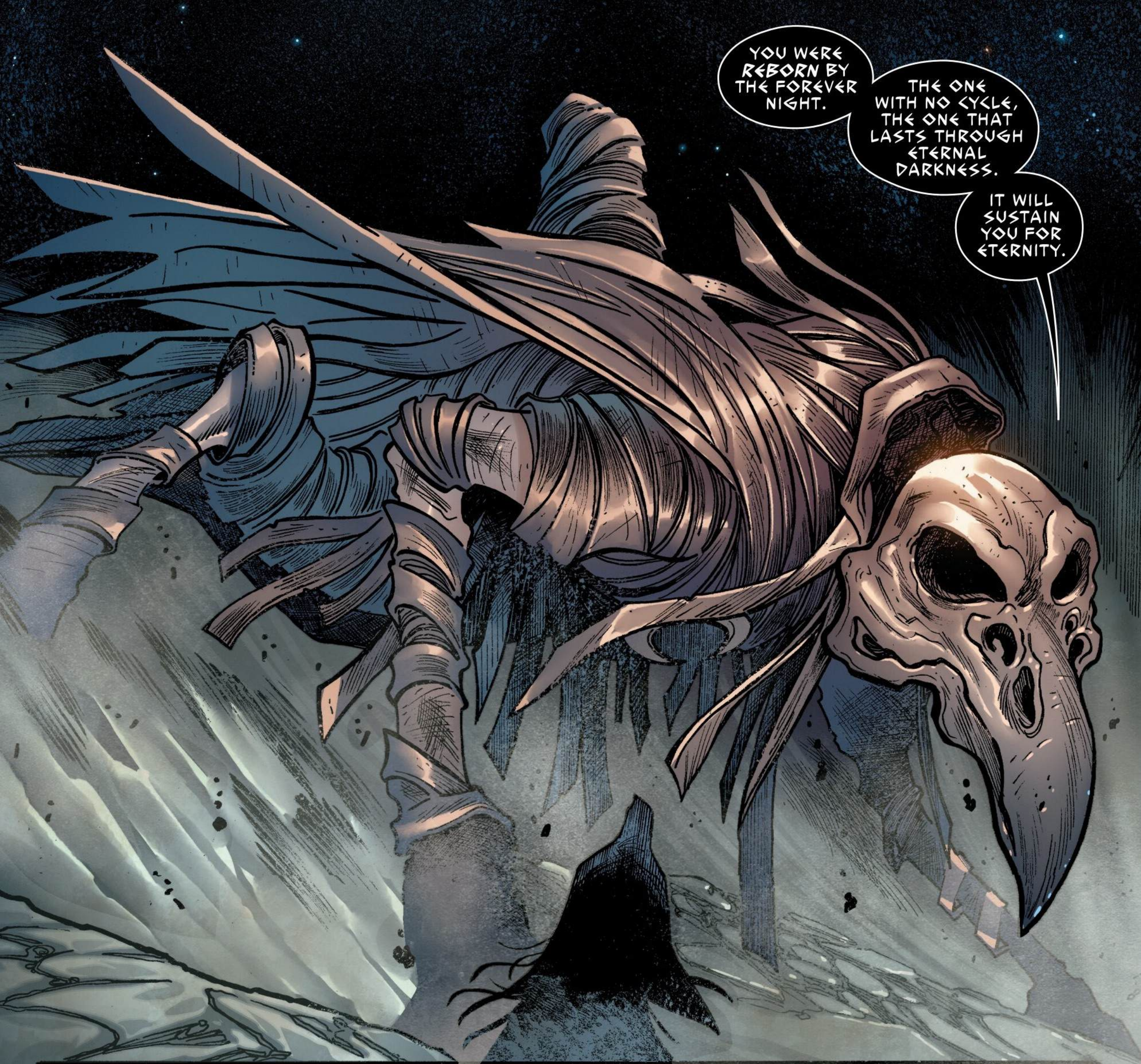
LIFE SIGNS AT
ACCEPTABLE
LEVELS.



I THOUGHT
THAT WAS MY
END...BUT I WAS
SAVED BY THE
NIGHT.



NO, SOL.



YOU WERE
REBORN BY
THE FOREVER
NIGHT.

THE ONE
WITH NO CYCLE,
THE ONE THAT
LASTS THROUGH
ETERNAL
DARKNESS.

IT WILL
SUSTAIN
YOU FOR
ETERNITY.



AND
I SHALL
CARRY YOU
WITH ME.



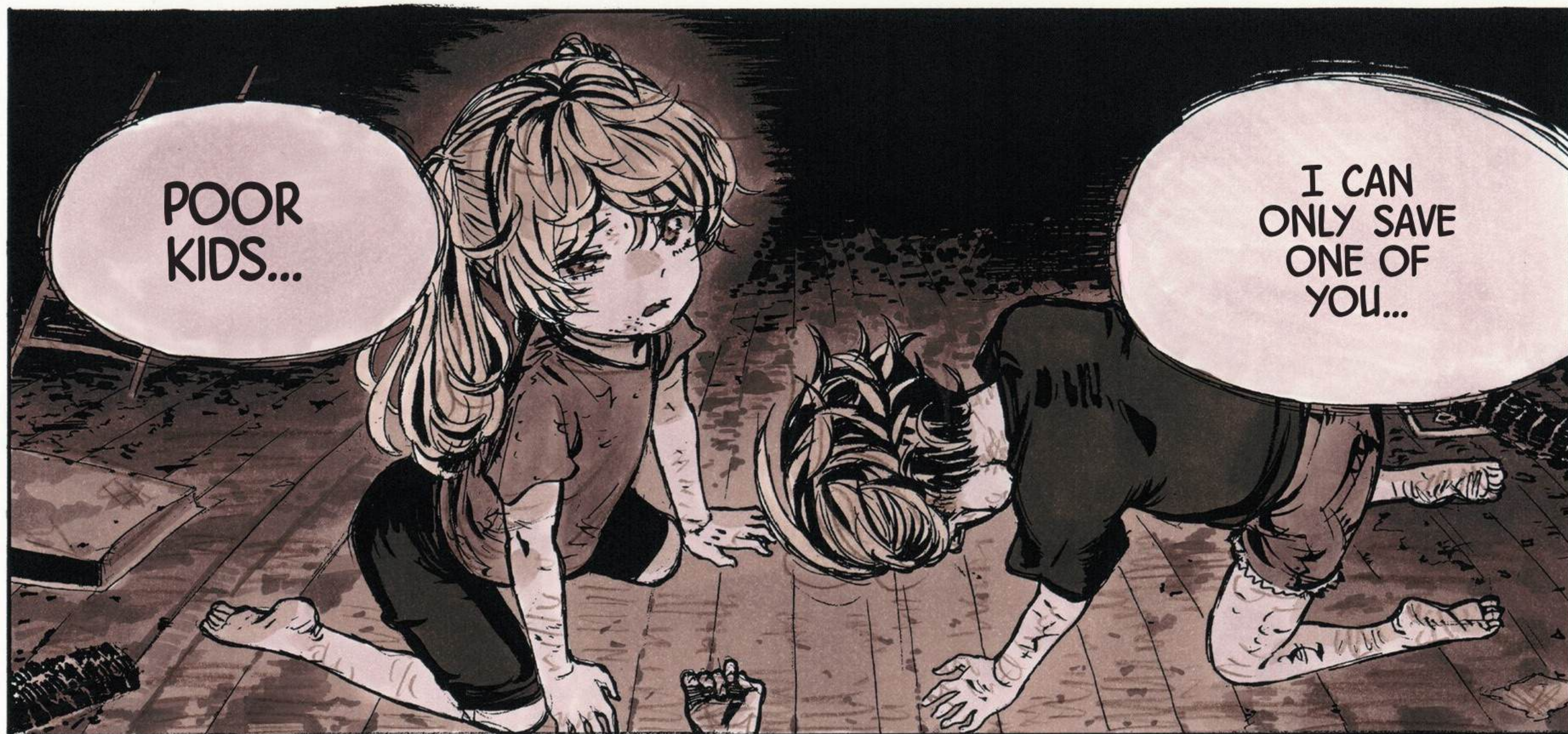
FOR
YOU ARE
MY CHILD.

AND YOU
CAN NEVER
LEAVE ME.



3

“MOON KNIGHT-CHAN”
“THE PAST IS PRESENT”
“MINI MARVELS”



POOR
KIDS...

I CAN
ONLY SAVE
ONE OF
YOU...



I'M
CANDRAPRABHA.

I GIVE
HOPE TO THE
WEAK.

I'LL NOW GIVE
YOU THE POWER
TO KILL THE LOUSY
BASTARDS WHO DID
THIS TO YOU.



KABUKICHO.
ŌKUBO PARK.

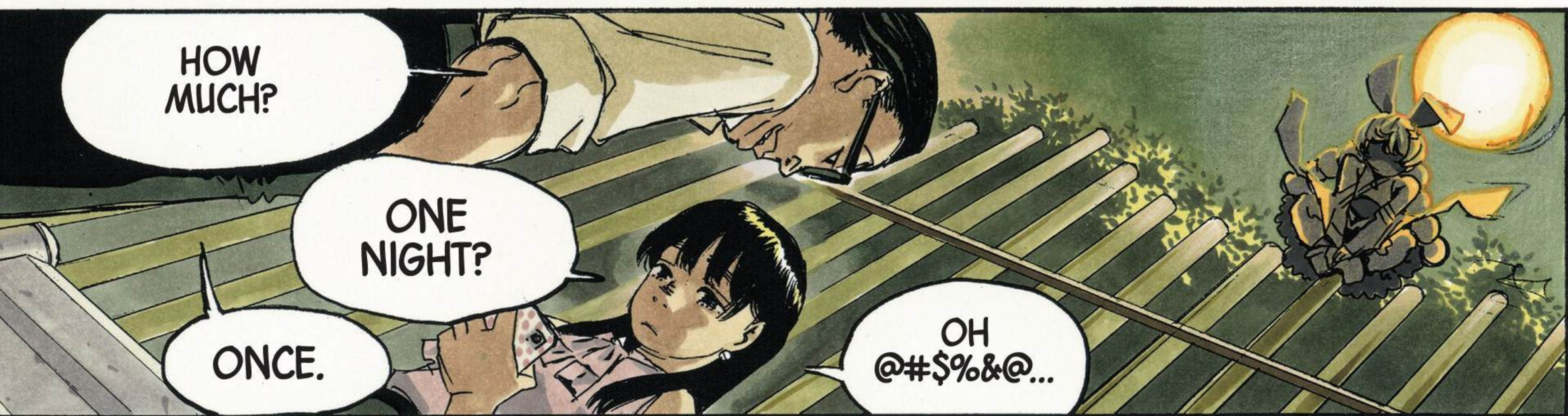


HOW
MUCH?

ONE
NIGHT?

ONCE.

OH
@#\$%&@...



月天使

I'M
MOON KNIGHT,
A.K.A.
LUNATIC ANGEL!

I'VE COME
TO SAVE YOU WITH
THE POWER OF LOVE
AND JUSTICE!

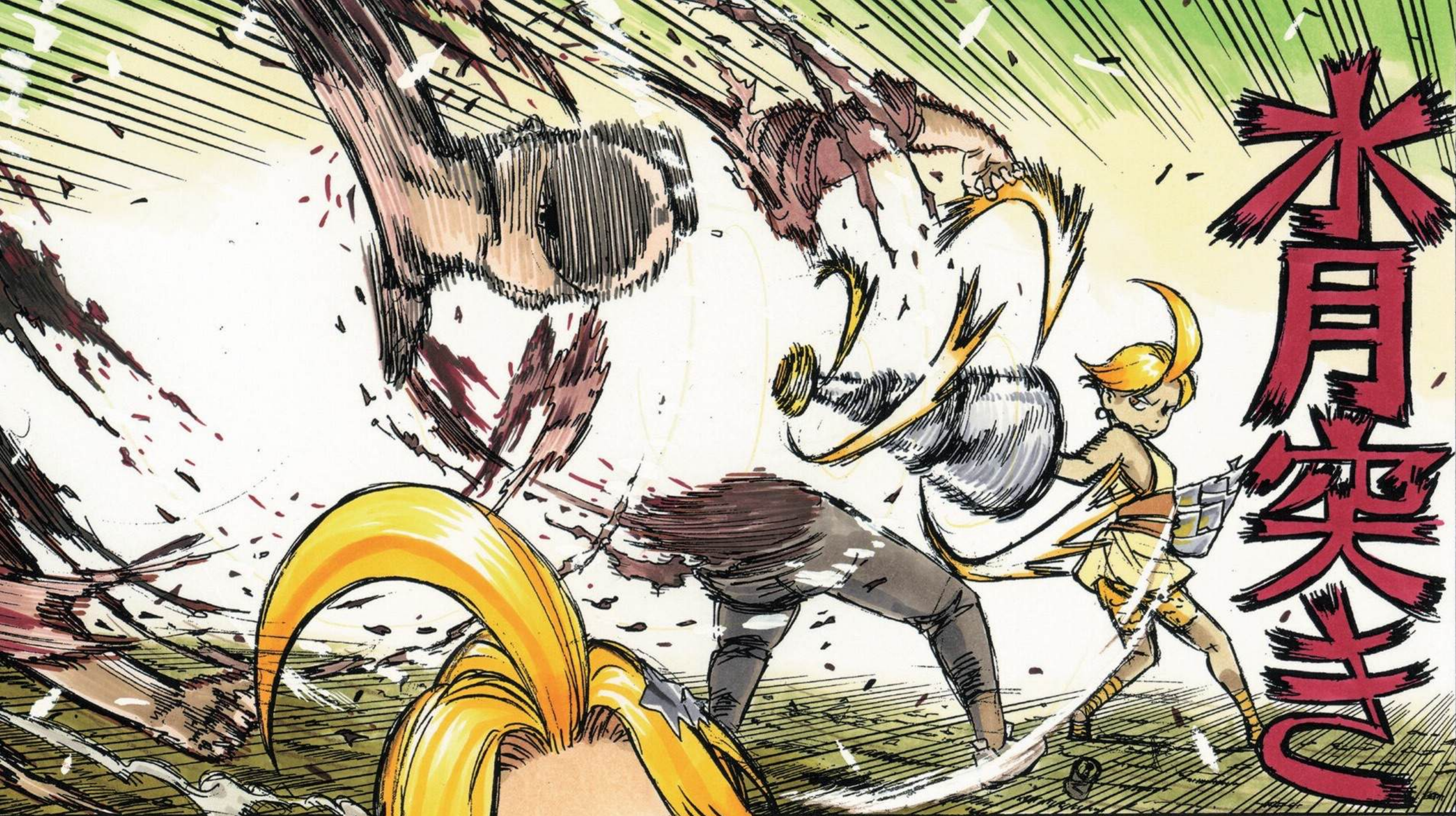
SERIOUSLY?!

SOMEONE
CALL 9-1-1!

I'LL HANDLE
THESE CREEPS.
YOU CAN ALL
GO HOME.

WHAT
THE--

@#\$%&!
YOU
KILLED MY
BUDDY!

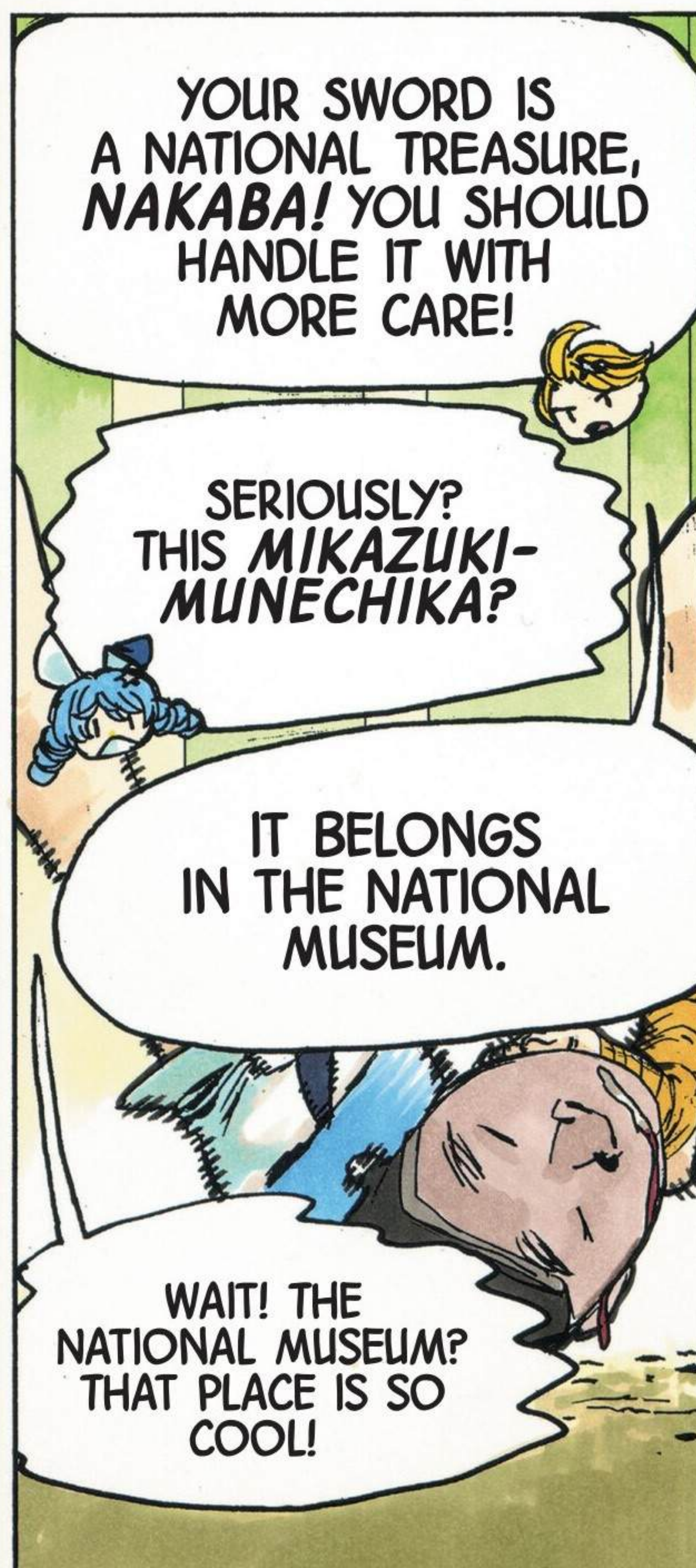


HEY, I HAD
IT HANDLED,
MIKA!

I SAVED
YOU! YOU DIDN'T
NOTICE HIM.

YES,
I DID!

OH, SURE!

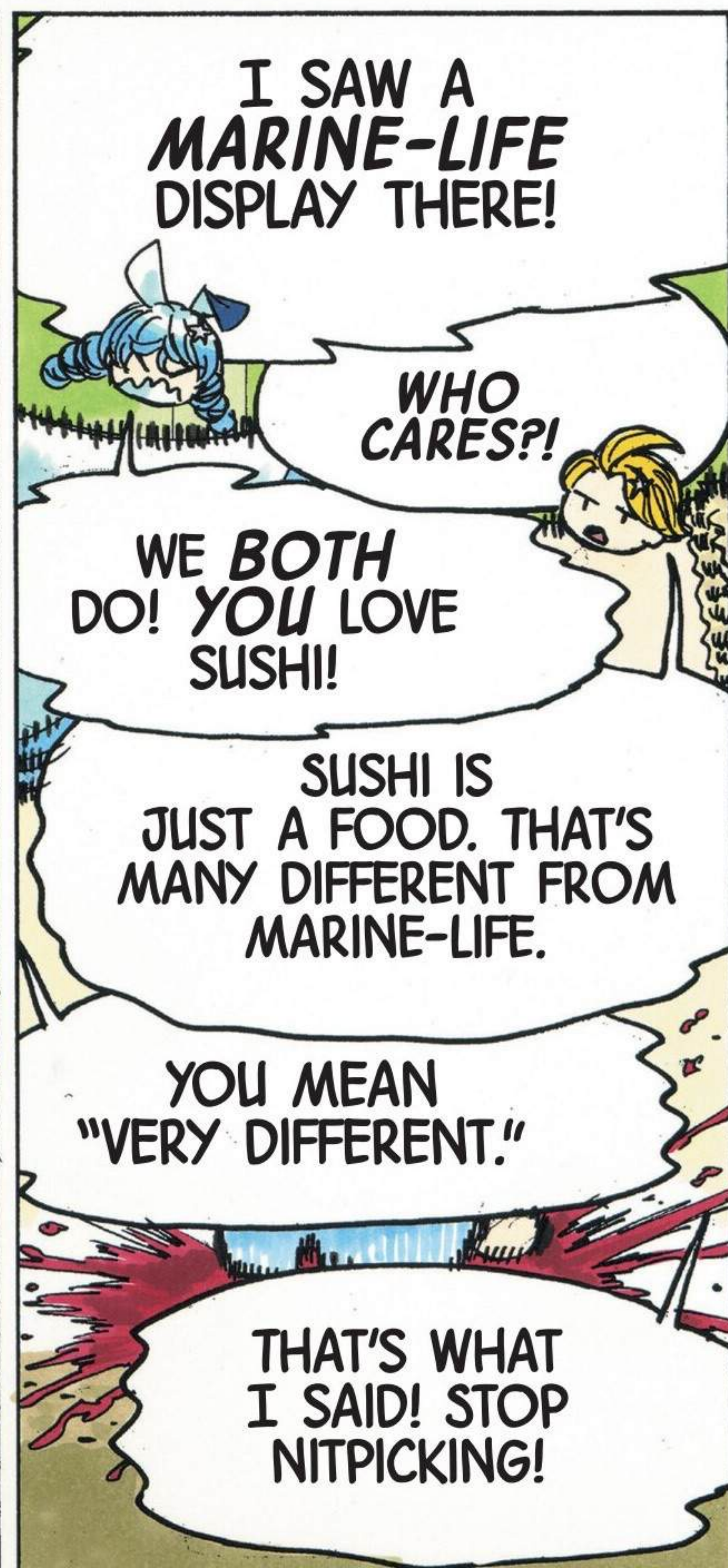


YOUR SWORD IS
A NATIONAL TREASURE,
NAKABA! YOU SHOULD
HANDLE IT WITH
MORE CARE!

SERIOUSLY?
THIS **MIKAZUKI-
MUNECHIKA?**

IT BELONGS
IN THE NATIONAL
MUSEUM.

WAIT! THE
NATIONAL MUSEUM?
THAT PLACE IS SO
COOL!



I SAW A
MARINE-LIFE
DISPLAY THERE!

WHO
CARES?!

WE **BOTH**
DO! YOU LOVE
SUSHI!

SUSHI IS
JUST A FOOD. THAT'S
MANY DIFFERENT FROM
MARINE-LIFE.

YOU MEAN
"VERY DIFFERENT."

THAT'S WHAT
I SAID! STOP
NITPICKING!



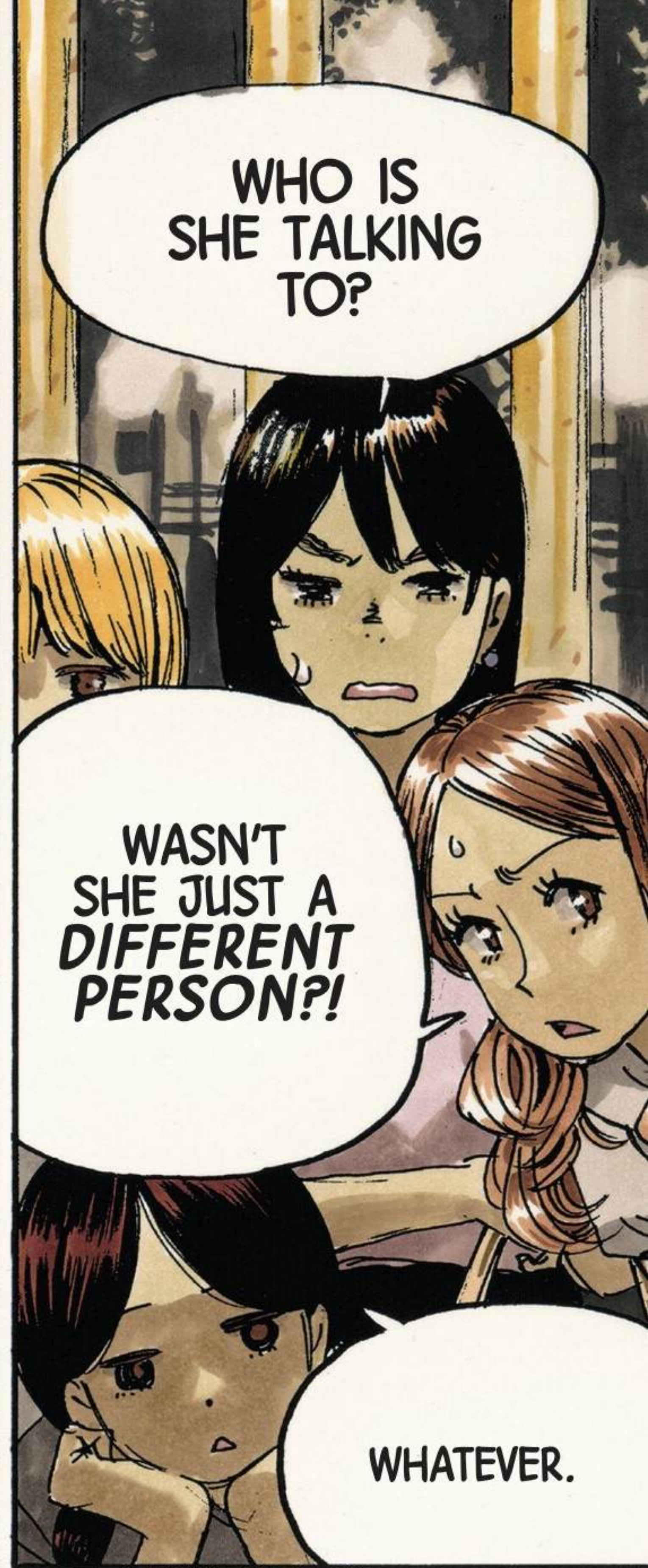
NO, THAT ISN'T
WHAT YOU SAID! USE
LANGUAGE PROPERLY!

SHUT UP!
HAVEN'T YOU EVER
READ "LANGUAGE-GAME"
BY DR. WITTGENSTEIN?

SHUT UP!
SHUT UP!

SHUT, SHUT,
SHUT UP!

?



WHO IS
SHE TALKING
TO?

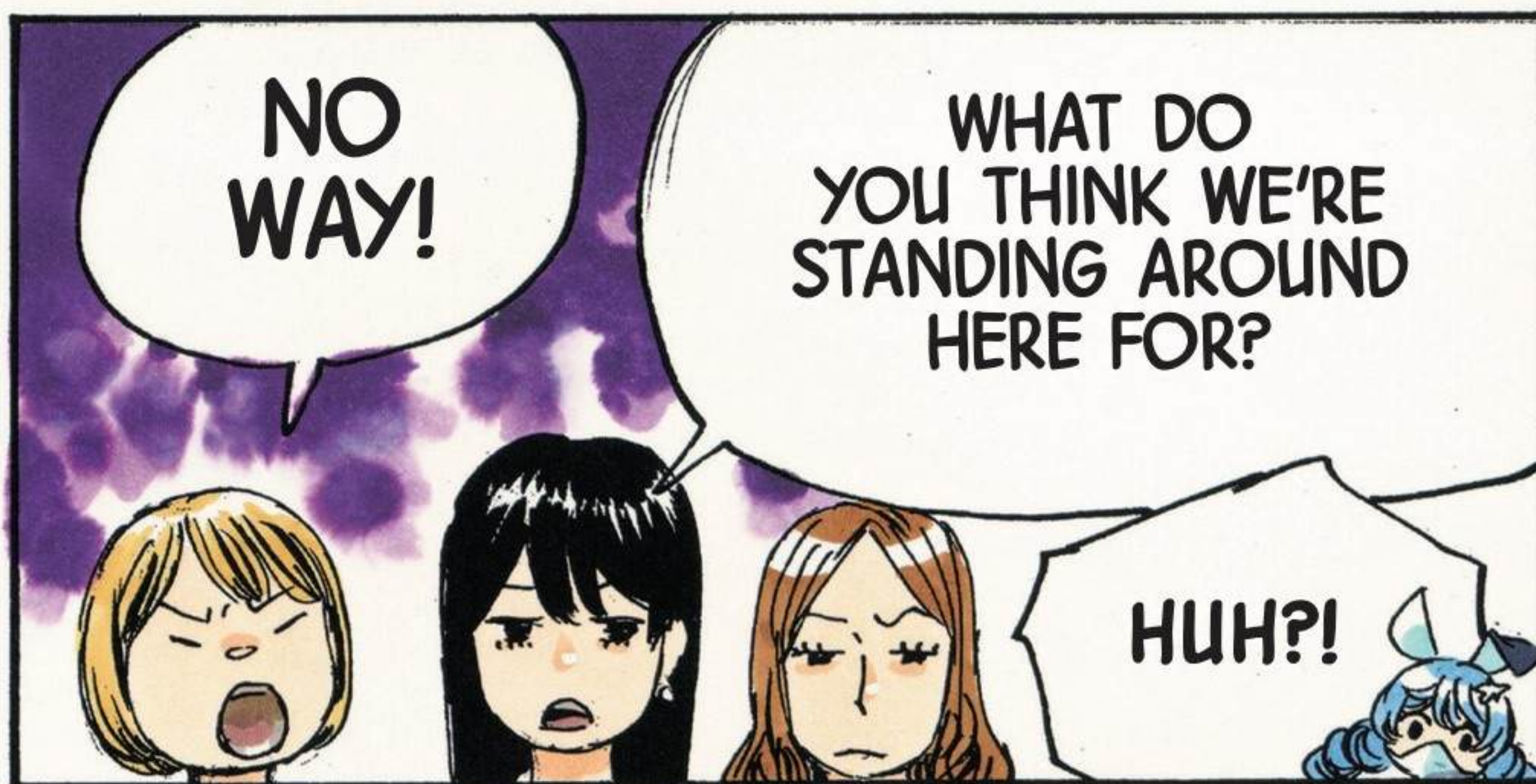
WASN'T
SHE JUST A
DIFFERENT
PERSON?!

WHATEVER.



OOPS, MY
BAD! YOU'RE ALL
SAFE NOW!

YOU CAN
GO HOME
SAFELY!



NO
WAY!

WHAT DO
YOU THINK WE'RE
STANDING AROUND
HERE FOR?

HUH?!



GET
LOST!

PAY US
BACK!

YEAH,
PAY US!

WHAT THE...



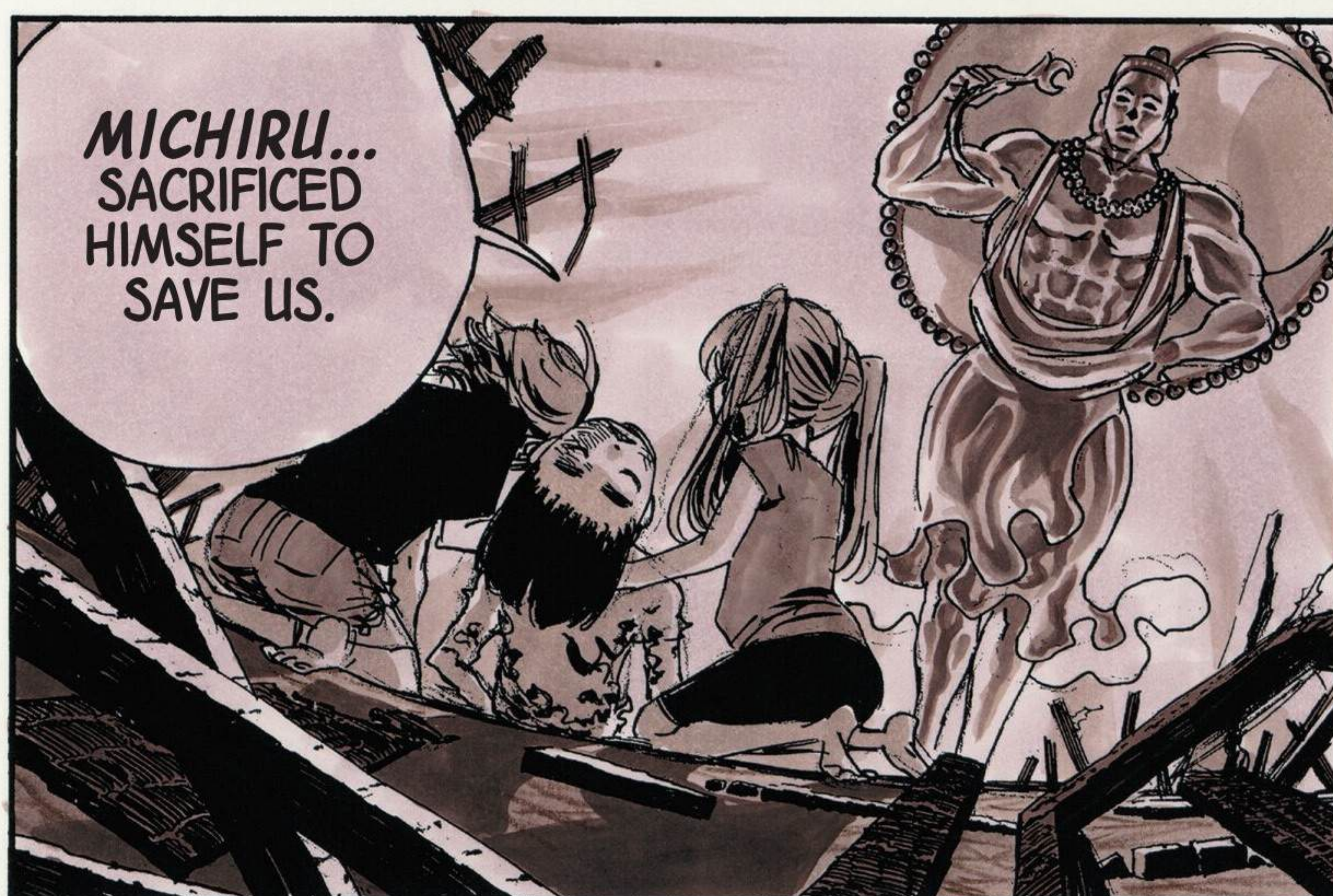
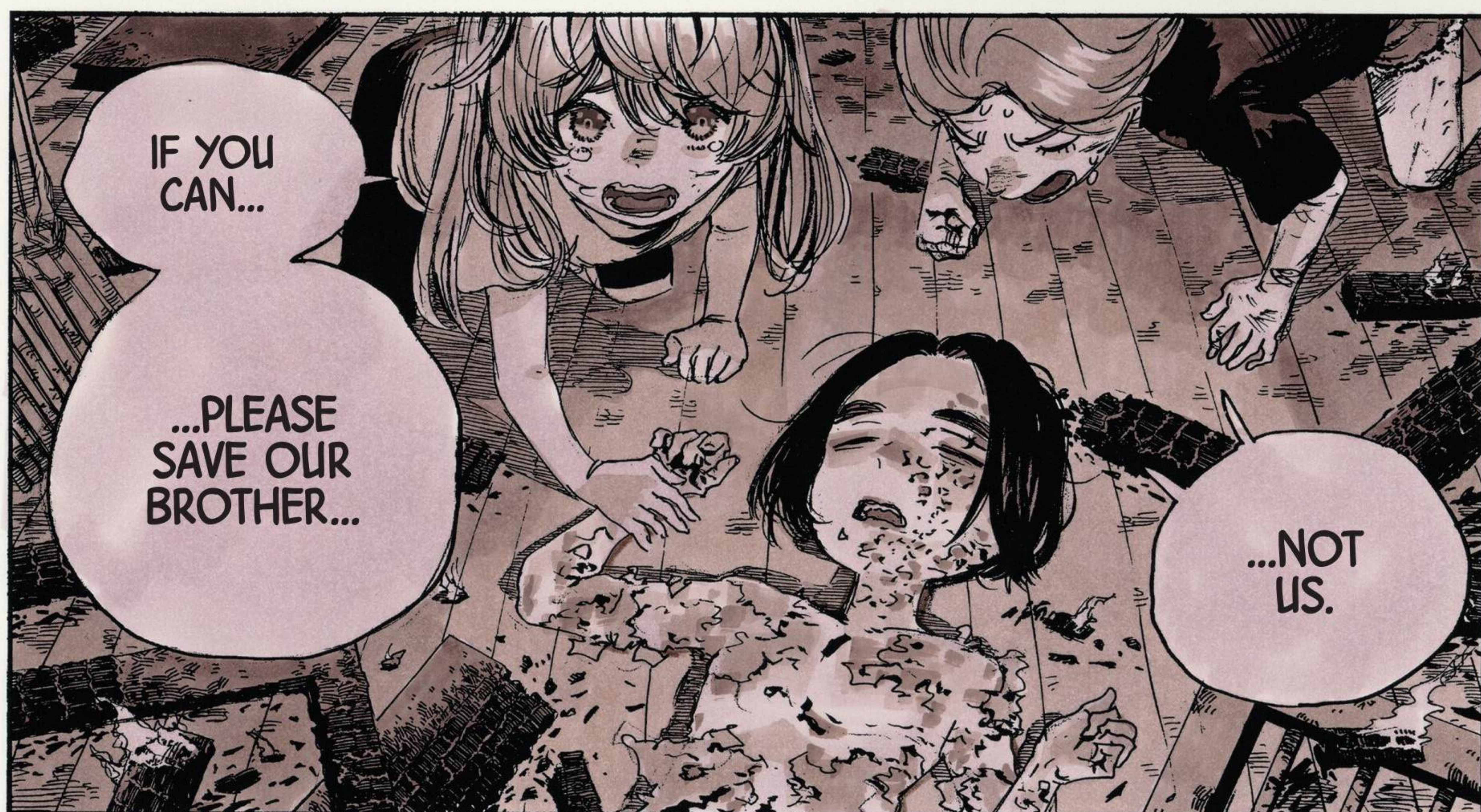
DID I...
DID I MESS
UP AGAIN?

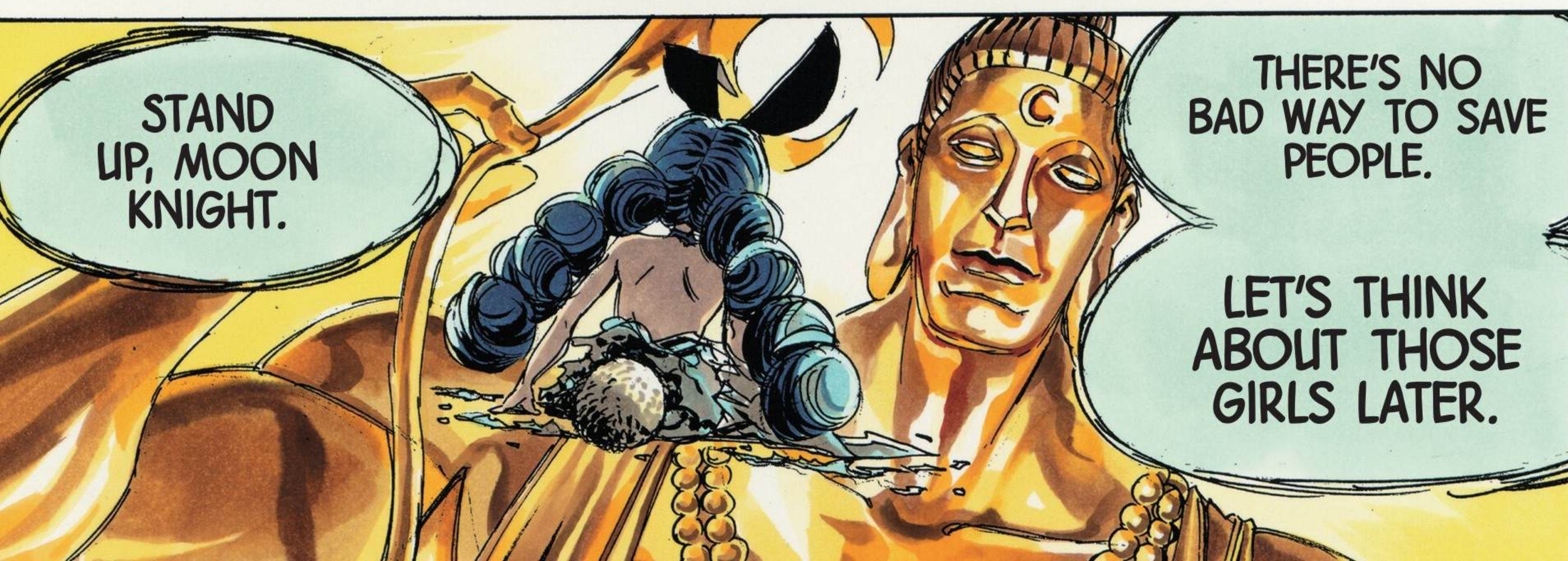
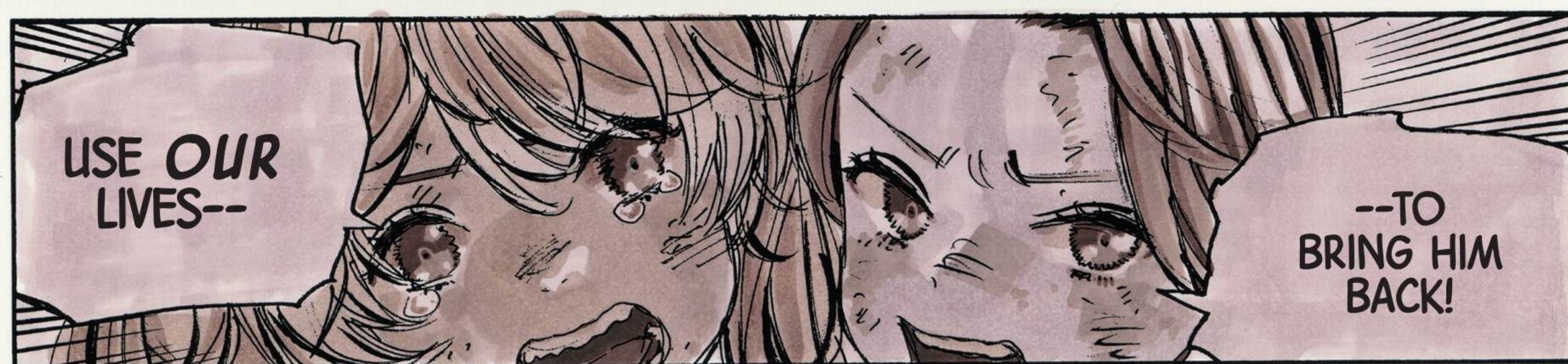
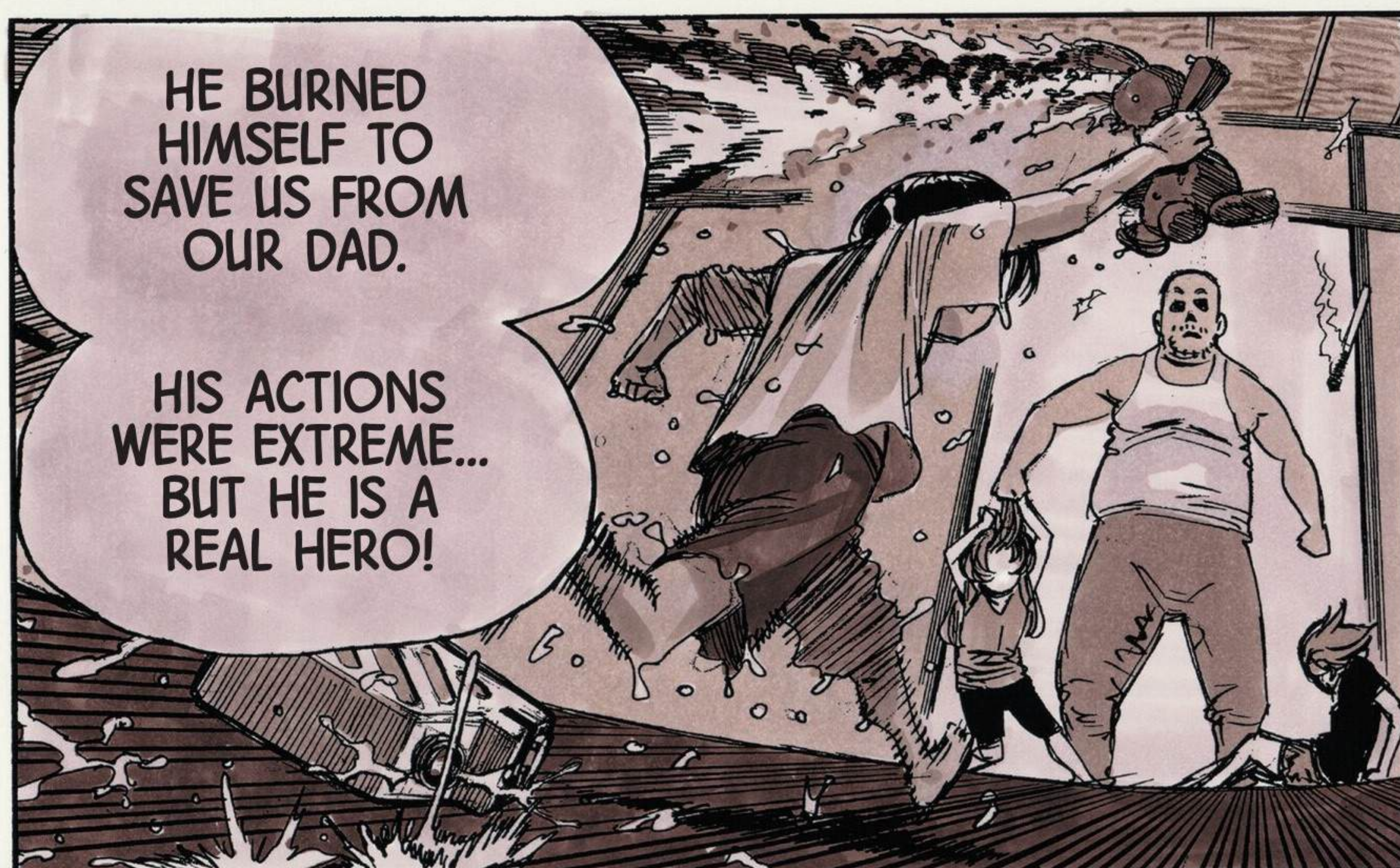
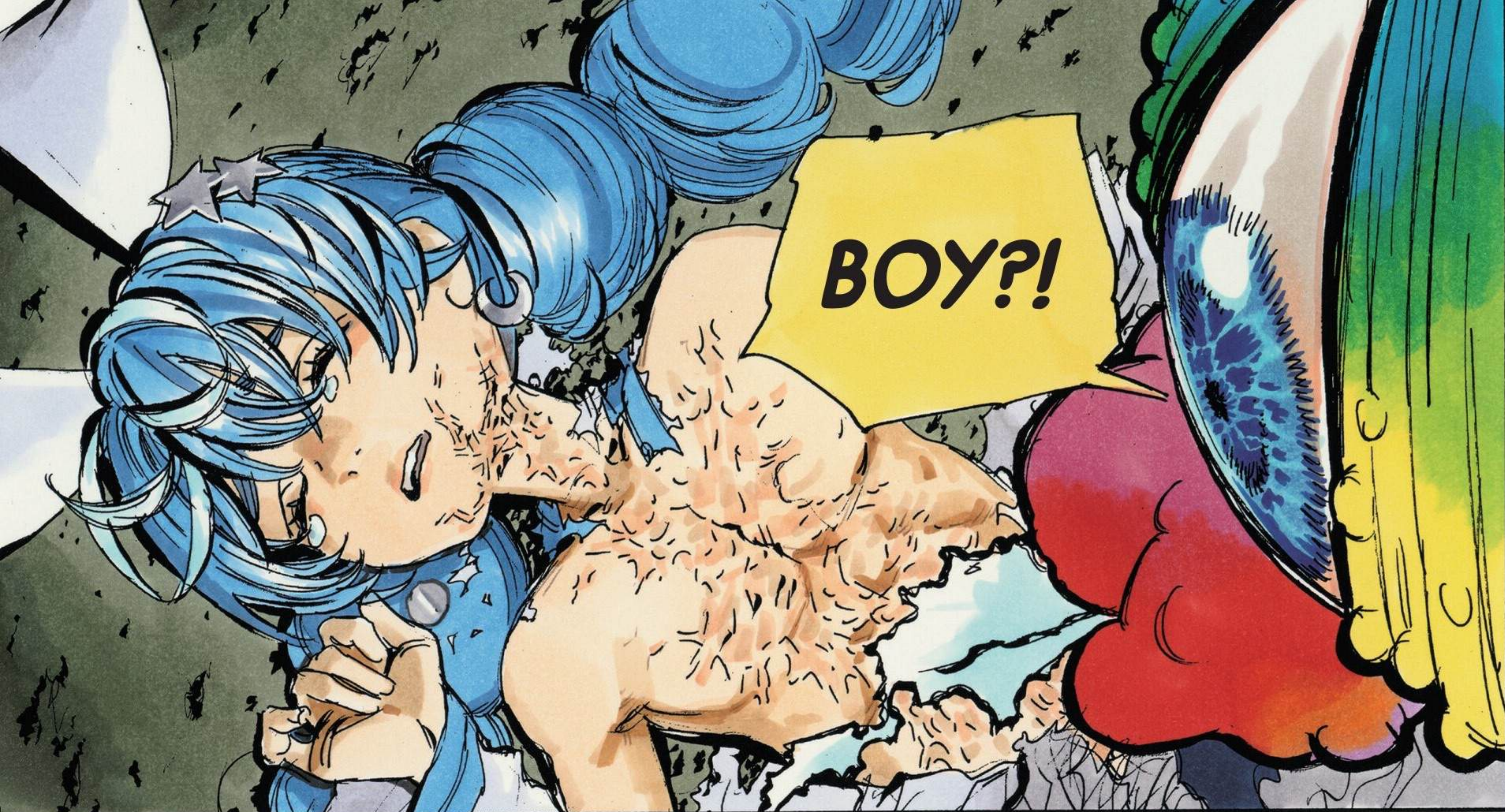
WIGGLE

WIGGLE

WIGGLE





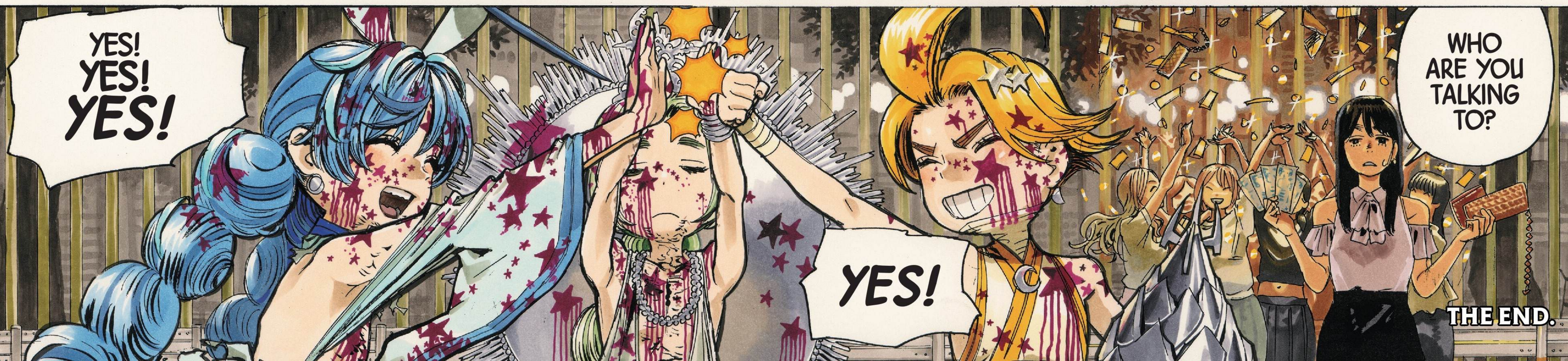


**YOU THREE
ARE THE MOON
WHO WATCHES
OVER THE
WEAK.**

**JUST KILL
THE BASTARDS,
MOON KNIGHT!**

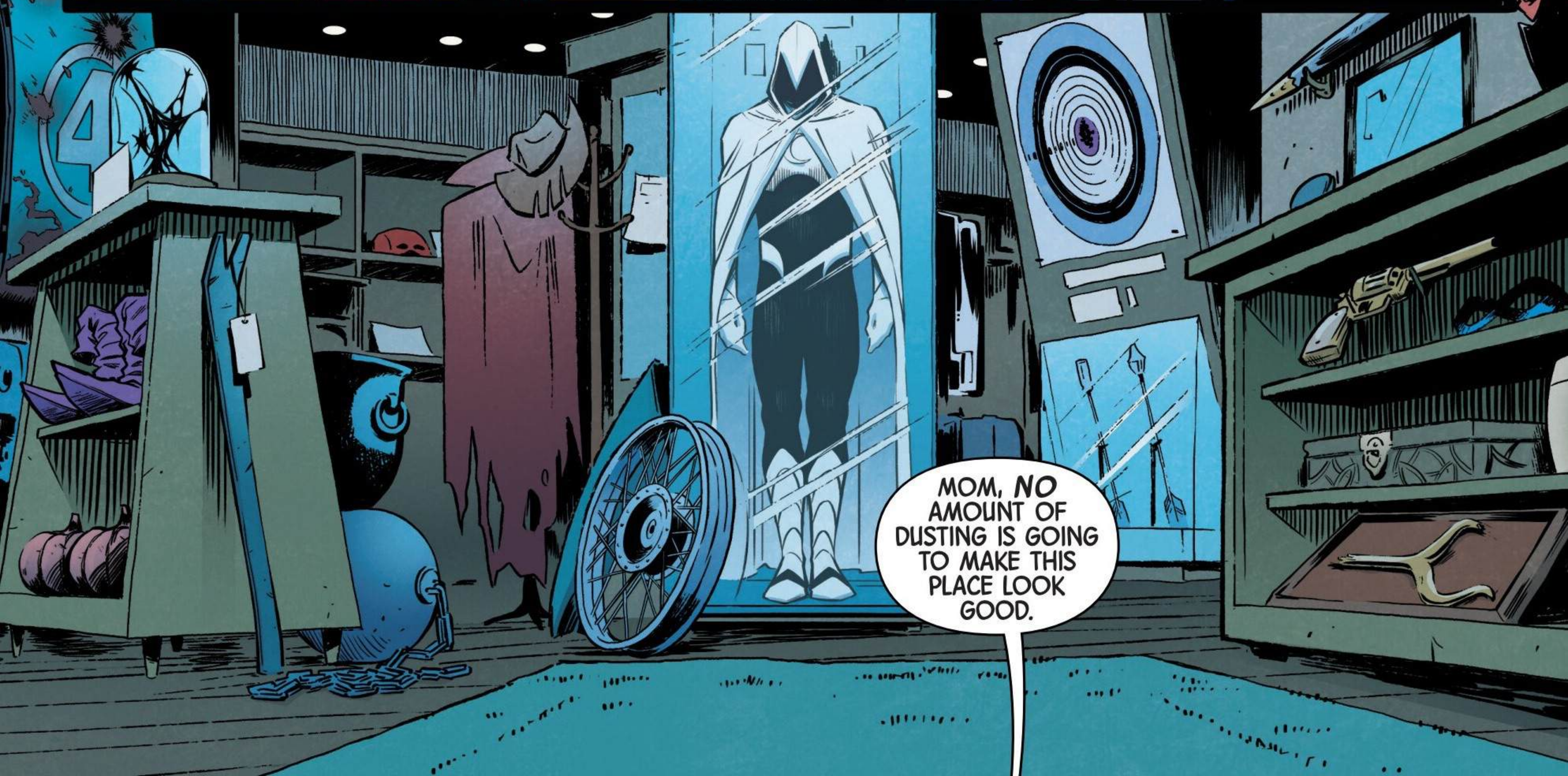


**STEAL BACK
FROM THOSE
BASTARDS AND EARN
RETRIBUTION FOR
THE GIRLS!**



THE END.

MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN HERO.
NEW AMERICAN WASTELAND.
FIVE MILES FROM THE CONTAINMENT ZONE.
THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE.





ARE YOU FIGHTING WITH YOUR MOTHER AGAIN?

WE LIVE IN THE MIDDLE OF A DESERT. THERE'S GOING TO BE DUST. AND NO ONE HAS TOURED THE MUSEUM IN MONTHS.

YES, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE JUST LET THE PLACE FALL INTO DISREPAIR.



WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

THE KRAMERS UP THE ROAD THINK THAT THEY SAW A FEW INFECTED MAKE IT SAFELY OUT OF THE CONTAINMENT ZONE. DOESN'T SEEM LIKELY, BUT IF SO WE WANT TO HELP THEM GET TREATMENT BEFORE THEY SPREAD THE VIRUS.

EITHER WAY, I DO BELIEVE YOU HAVE SOME CLEANING TO DO.



ONE DAY, YOU'LL THANK US FOR TRYING TO INSTILL A GOOD WORK ETHIC.

YEAH, YEAH.



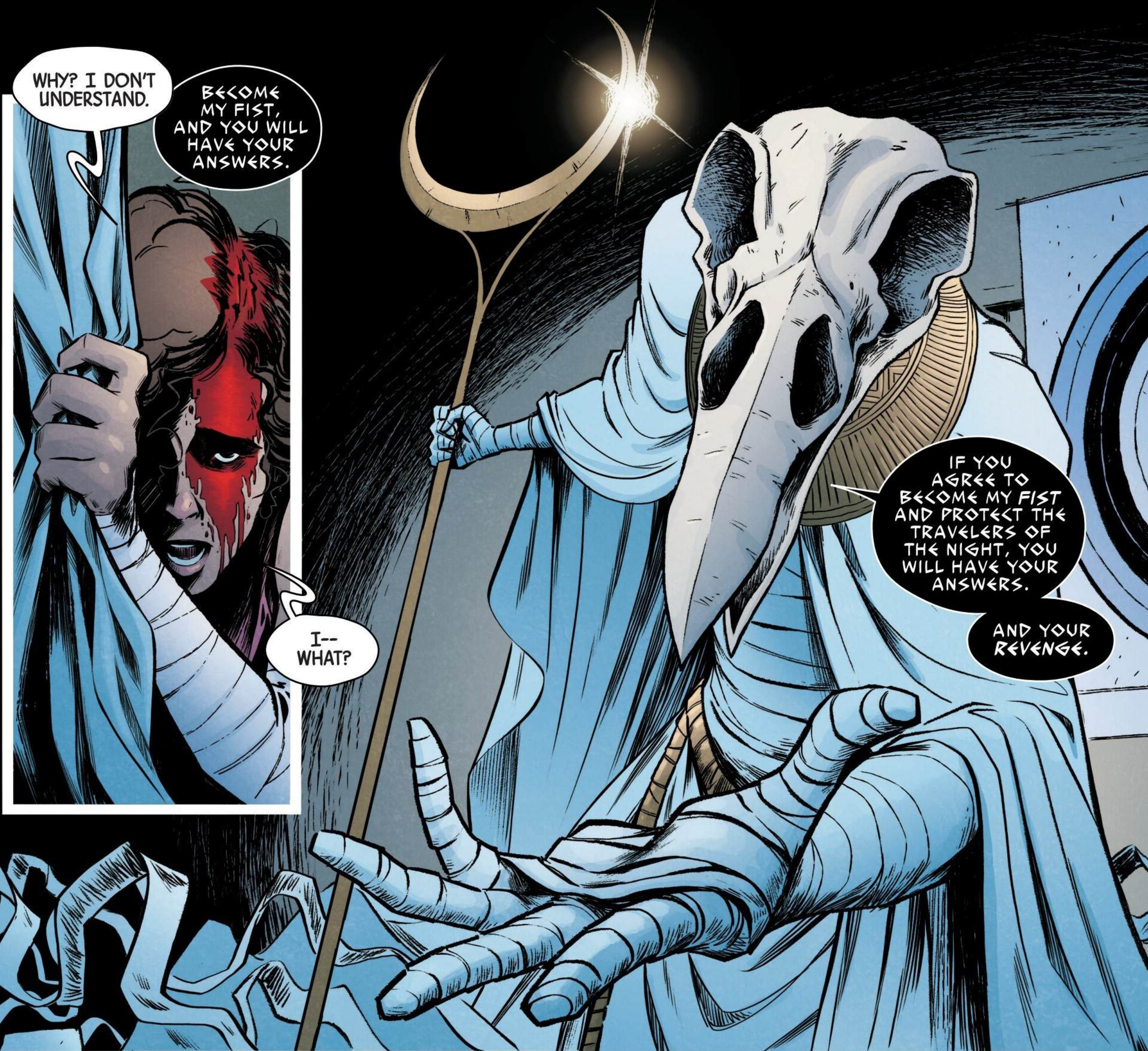
MOM?



NOOO...

MOOOOMMM...

DAAAD.



WHY? I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

BECOME MY FIST, AND YOU WILL HAVE YOUR ANSWERS.

I-- WHAT?

IF YOU AGREE TO BECOME MY FIST AND PROTECT THE TRAVELERS OF THE NIGHT, YOU WILL HAVE YOUR ANSWERS.

AND YOUR REVENGE.



YOUR PARENTS LIE DEAD, AND IT IS A CHANCE OF FATE THAT YOU STILL BREATHE.

IF YOU JOIN WITH ME, YOU CAN ENSURE NO ONE ELSE SUFFERS THEIR SAME FATE. YOU CAN STOP THEIR MURDERERS.



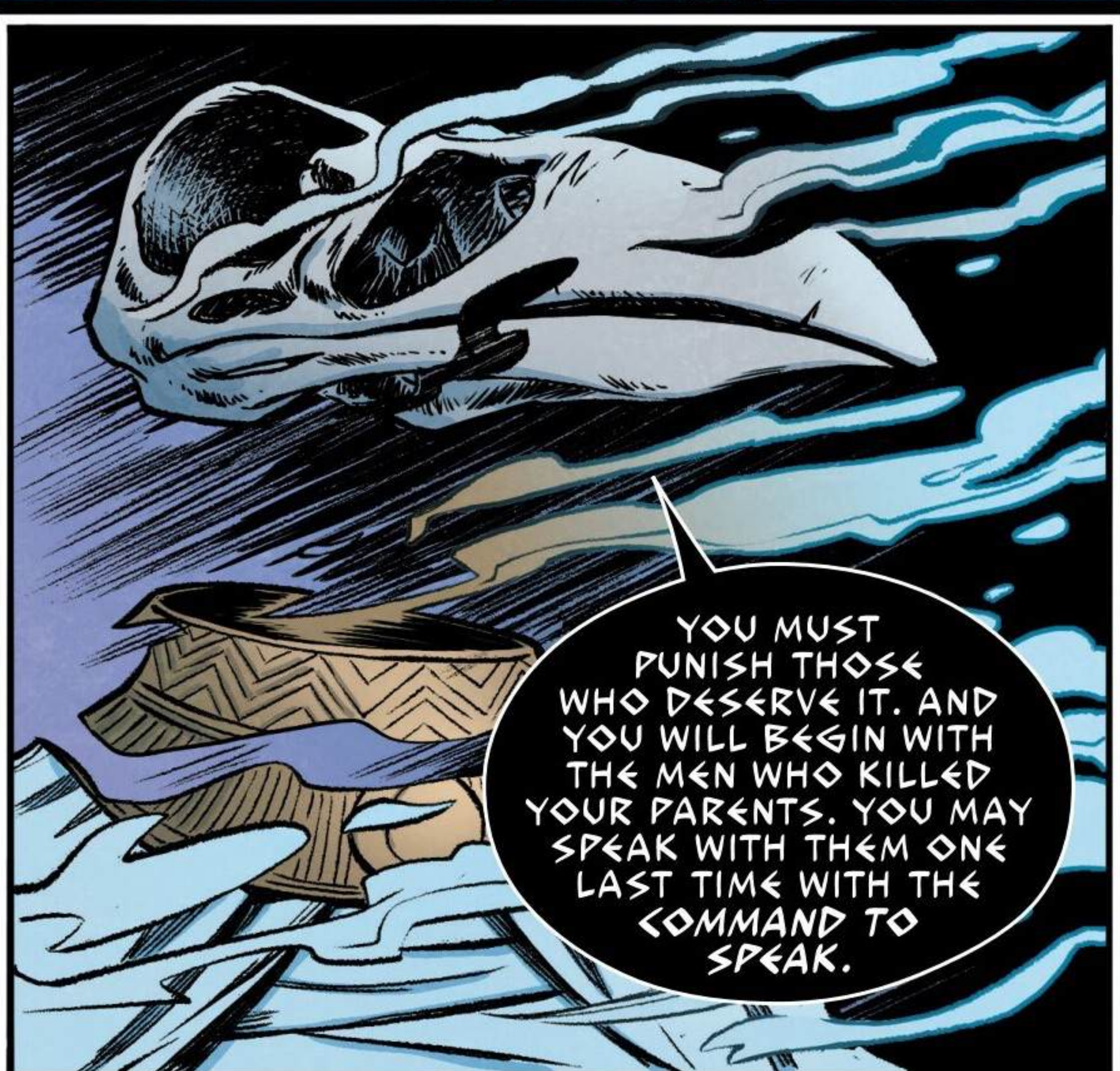
YES. YES, I'LL BE YOUR FIST.



THEN RISE--



--AND
BECOME
MY HUNTER'S
MOON!



YOU MUST
PUNISH THOSE
WHO DESERVE IT. AND
YOU WILL BEGIN WITH
THE MEN WHO KILLED
YOUR PARENTS. YOU MAY
SPEAK WITH THEM ONE
LAST TIME WITH THE
COMMAND TO
SPEAK.



GAH,
WHAT JUST
HAPPENED?



YOU
MADE A BAD
DEAL, KID.

I...
ARE YOU
REAL?

UNFORTUNATELY, I'M
WHAT'S LEFT OF KHONSHU'S
LAST FIST. TURNS OUT HE
DOESN'T LET HIS LACKEYS PASS
ON UNTIL HE'S GOOD AND
READY. BUT IF YOU CAN
SEE ME...



...YOU CAN
PROBABLY SEE THEM.
AND I BET THEY CAN TELL
YOU JUST WHAT YOU MIGHT
NEED TO KNOW ABOUT
THE MEN WHO KILLED
THEM.



THIS ISN'T
REAL, THIS CAN'T
BE REAL.

YOU HAVE
TO GIVE THEM THE
COMMAND.

**SPEAK,
SPIRITS!**



ELLIE.
I AM SO
SORRY.

WE SHOULD
HAVE TOLD YOU
A LONG TIME AGO
WHAT THIS PLACE
REALLY IS.



I--OKAY.
SO THEN WHAT
IS THIS PLACE?



WE'RE A WAY STATION TO OFFER
HELP TO THOSE WHO CAN ESCAPE
THE CONTAINMENT ZONE AND WANT
TO LIVE A LIFE FREE OF VIOLENCE.
WE'VE BEEN VACCINATING
REFUGEES FOR DECADES.



THOSE MEN WANT
TO SPREAD THE VIRUS TO THE
REST OF THE COUNTRY. THE VIRUS
STRIPS PEOPLE OF THEIR EMPATHY
AND LEAVES THEM AS REMORSELESS,
SUPER HUMAN *KILLING MACHINES*.
YOU CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN. YOU
HAVE TO STOP THEM. WE LOVE YOU.



MOM! DAD!
PLEASE DON'T
GO...

THEY'VE
ALREADY MOVED ON.
TRAVELERS BOUND FOR
THE AFTERLIFE DON'T HANG
AROUND VERY LONG, BUT
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU CAN
SEE US NOW.

YOU DIED
DECADES AGO.
HOW COME I
CAN *SEE*
YOU?

BECAUSE THERE'S
NO EXPIRATION DATE
WHEN YOU MAKE A DEAL
WITH KHONSHU.

I'M HERE
TO HELP, AT
LEAST UNTIL I
GET TO PASS
ON.

WELL, I
CAN HELP
WITH YOUR NEW
POWERS AT
LEAST. NOT SO
MUCH IN DEALING
WITH YOUR
GRIEF.



SORRY
ABOUT YOUR
FOLKS, KID.

YEAH.

ANY IDEA
HOW YOU'RE
GOING TO FIND
THE MEN WHO
DID THIS?



THE CAMERAS.
THEY'RE ALL ALONG
THE MAIN ROAD OUT
FRONT. MOST OF THEM
HAVEN'T WORKED FOR YEARS,
BUT ENOUGH ARE STILL
RUNNING THAT WE SHOULD
BE ABLE TO TRACK
THEIR PROGRESS.



FOUND YOU.

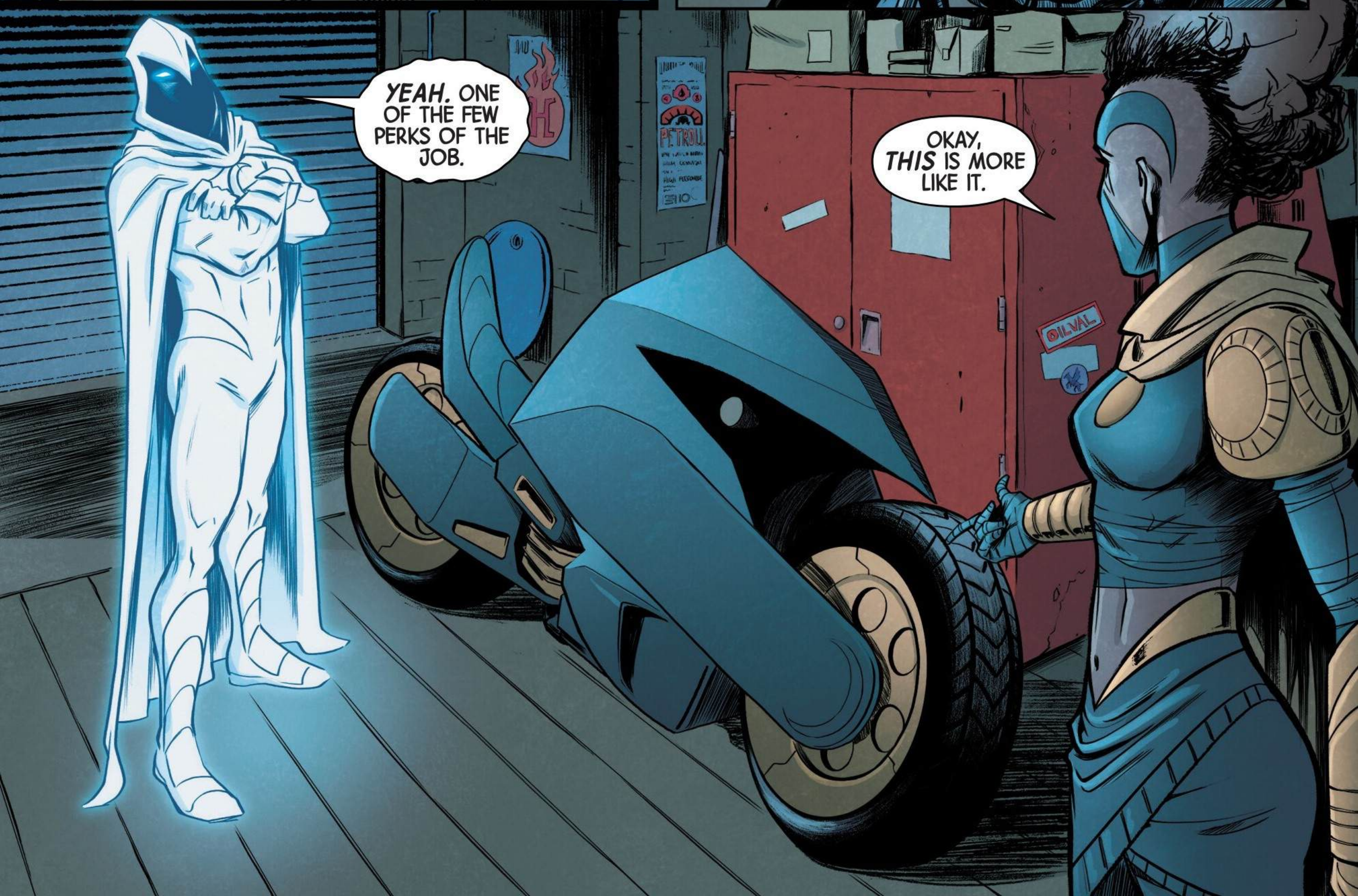


I GUESS THIS MEANS I FINALLY GET TO DRIVE THE MOTORCYCLE.



NICE WHEELS, BUT YOU SHOULD MAKE THEM YOUR OWN.

YEAH?



YEAH. ONE OF THE FEW PERKS OF THE JOB.

OKAY, THIS IS MORE LIKE IT.



NOPE. BESIDES, YOU'RE GOING TO NEED MY HELP. THERE'S A LEARNING CURVE TO THIS BUSINESS, YOU KNOW.

DON'T YOU HAVE SOMEWHERE ELSE TO BE?

I CAN FIGURE IT OUT.

WE'LL SEE.



THIS SEEMS LIKE A CHARMING PLACE.

WE'RE ALMOST TO THE CONTAINMENT ZONE. NO ONE IS COMING HERE FOR ANY KIND OF GOOD REASON.



YOU...



WHAT THE HELL?

GO, MAN, GO!



NO FIGHTING IN MY BAR.

NO #@\$%&@# HEROES EITHER.



BAD
IDEA,
KID.



TOLD
YOU.

OKAY.
HUH. I STAND
CORRECTED.



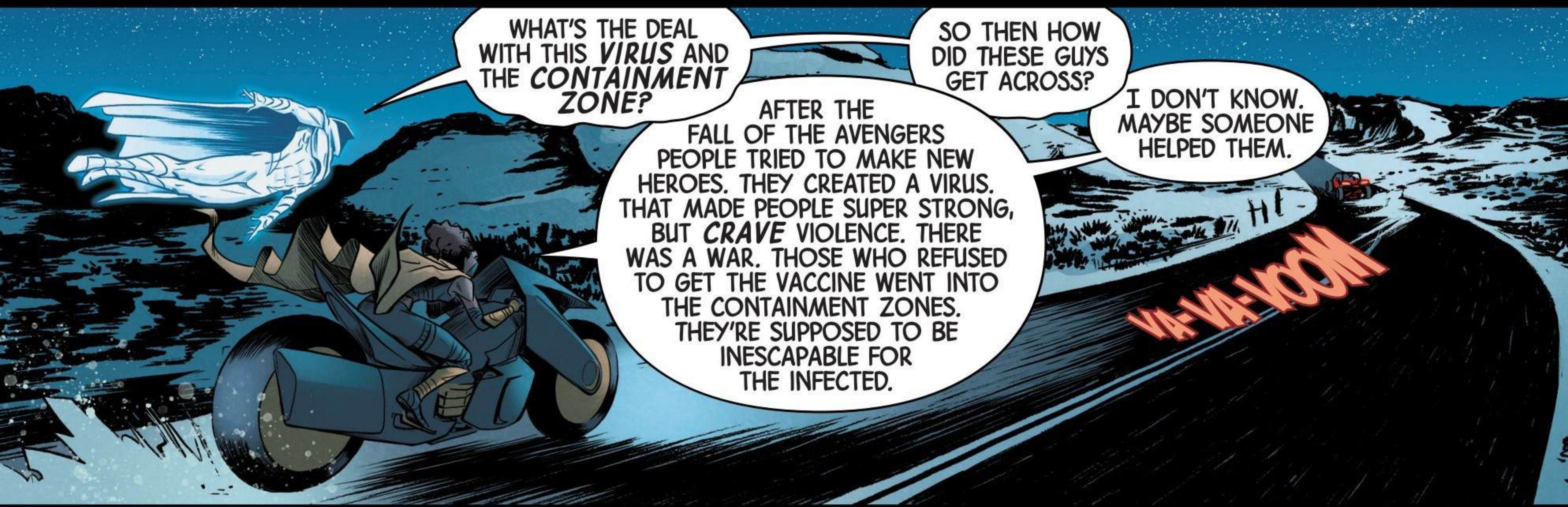
GO AFTER
THEM! THEY'RE
GETTING AWAY.

YOU
THINK I DIDN'T
NOTICE?



IF THEY MAKE
IT BACK TO THE
CONTAINMENT ZONE,
I'LL NEVER CATCH
THEM!

KRAK



WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH THIS **VIRUS** AND THE **CONTAINMENT ZONE**?

SO THEN HOW DID THESE GUYS GET ACROSS?

I DON'T KNOW. MAYBE SOMEONE HELPED THEM.

AFTER THE FALL OF THE AVENGERS PEOPLE TRIED TO MAKE NEW HEROES. THEY CREATED A VIRUS. THAT MADE PEOPLE SUPER STRONG, BUT **CRAVE** VIOLENCE. THERE WAS A WAR. THOSE WHO REFUSED TO GET THE VACCINE WENT INTO THE CONTAINMENT ZONES. THEY'RE SUPPOSE TO BE INESCAPABLE FOR THE INFECTED.

VA-VA-VOOM



I'LL BE SURE TO ASK THEM BEFORE I KILL THEM.



SHE'S **GAINING** ON US!

SO DO **SOMETHING** ABOUT IT!

OH YEAH, I GOT SOMETHING FOR THIS HERO-WORSHIPPIN' PSYCHO...



CRAP.



HA
HAH HAH
HA!

RATATATATATA



PING PING PING PING

GAH!

PING

PING



I PROBABLY SHOULD POINT OUT THAT IF YOU GET HIT, YOU WON'T DIE, BUT IT *WILL* HURT LIKE HELL.

YEAH, YEAH, GOT IT.

GUH!



WHOOOSH

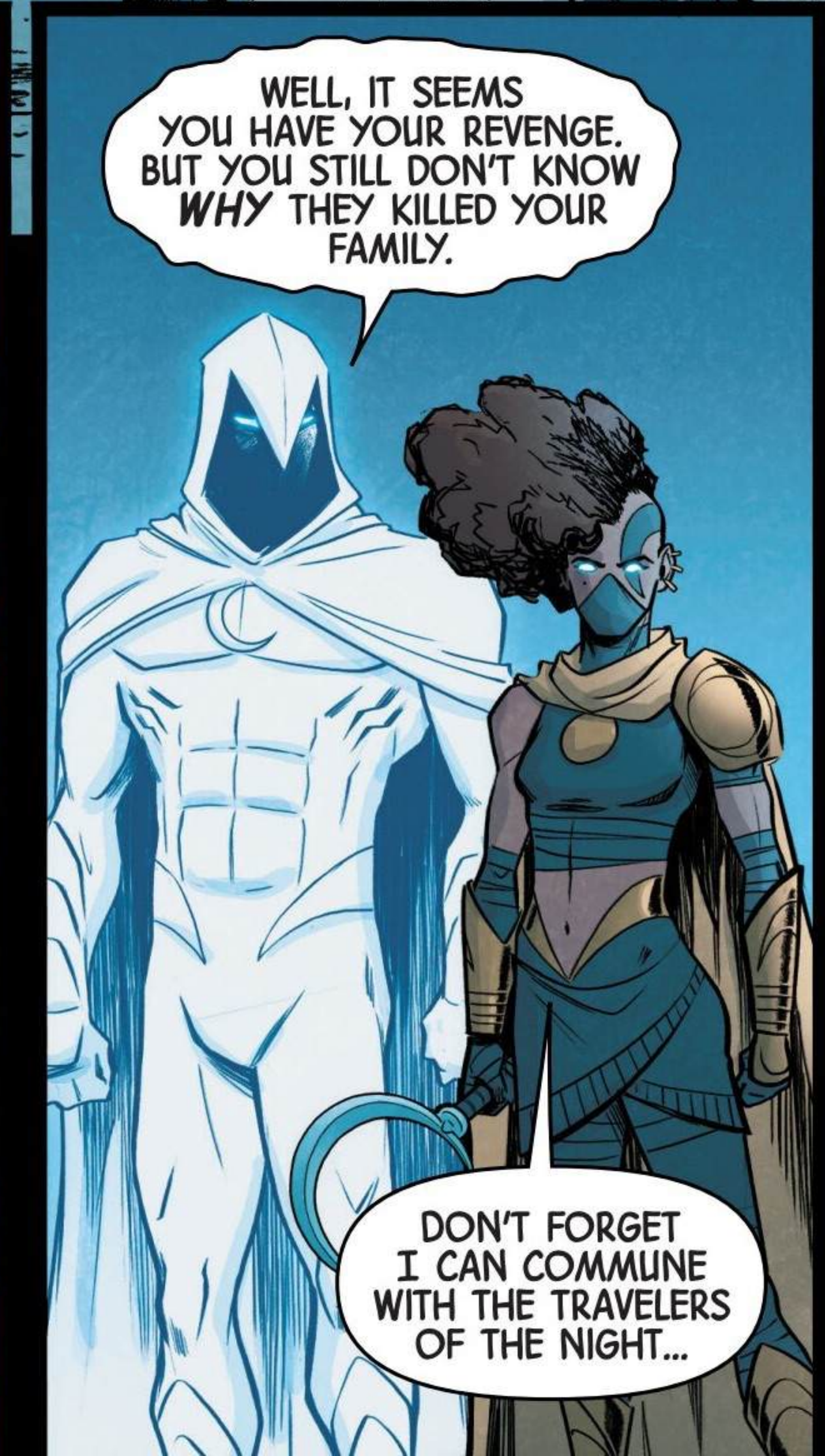
WHOOOSH

WHOOOSH

YOU SHOULD REALLY LISTEN TO ME.

I REALLY WISH YOU WOULD STOP TALKING.



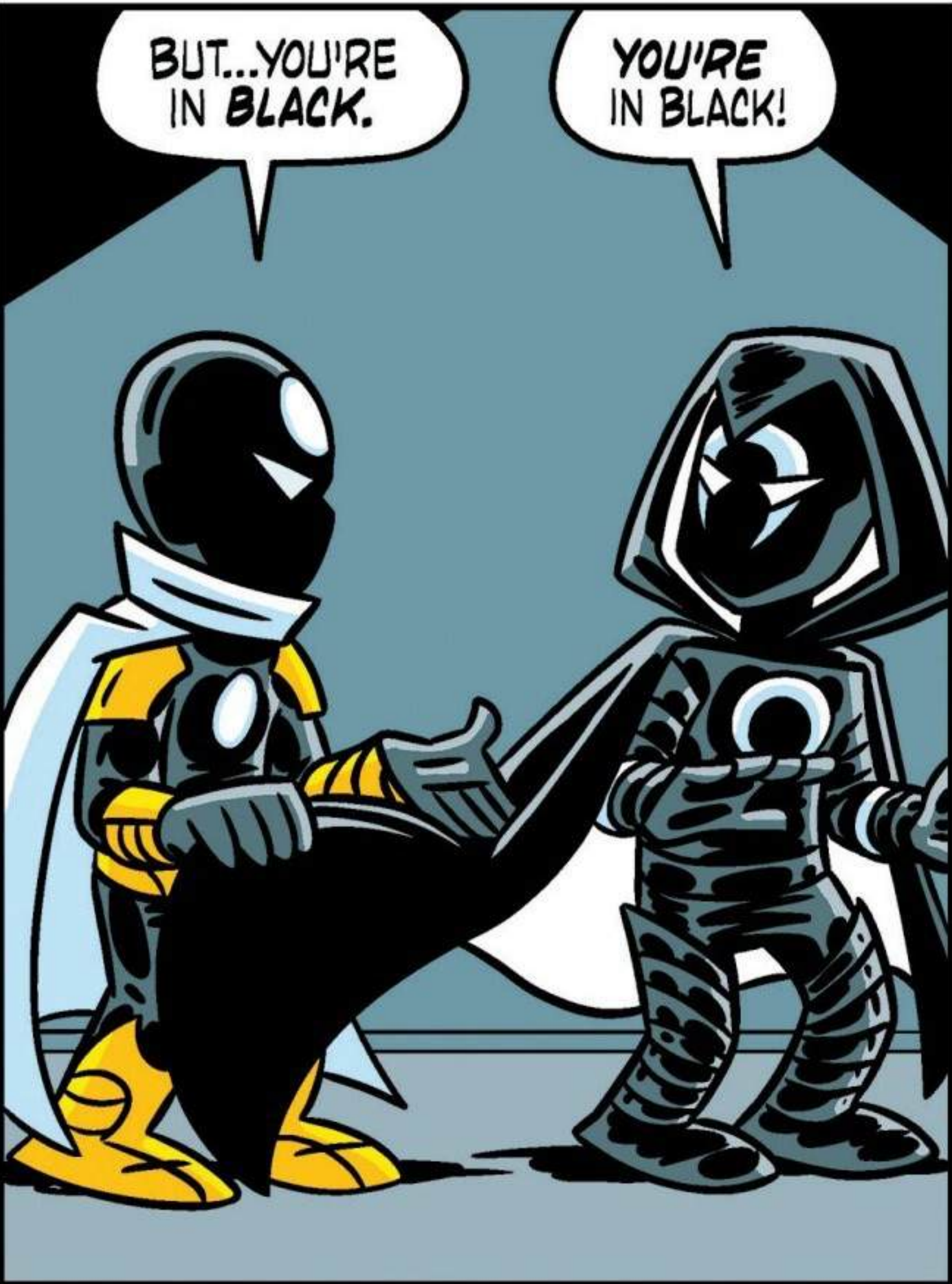


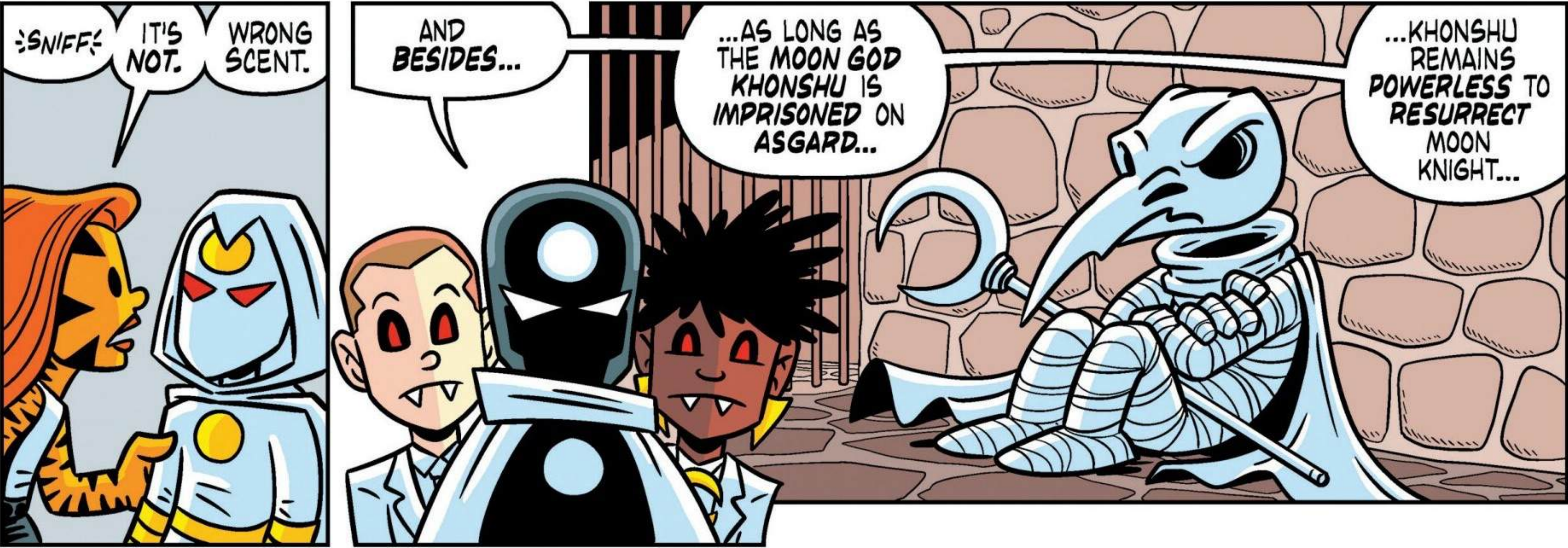
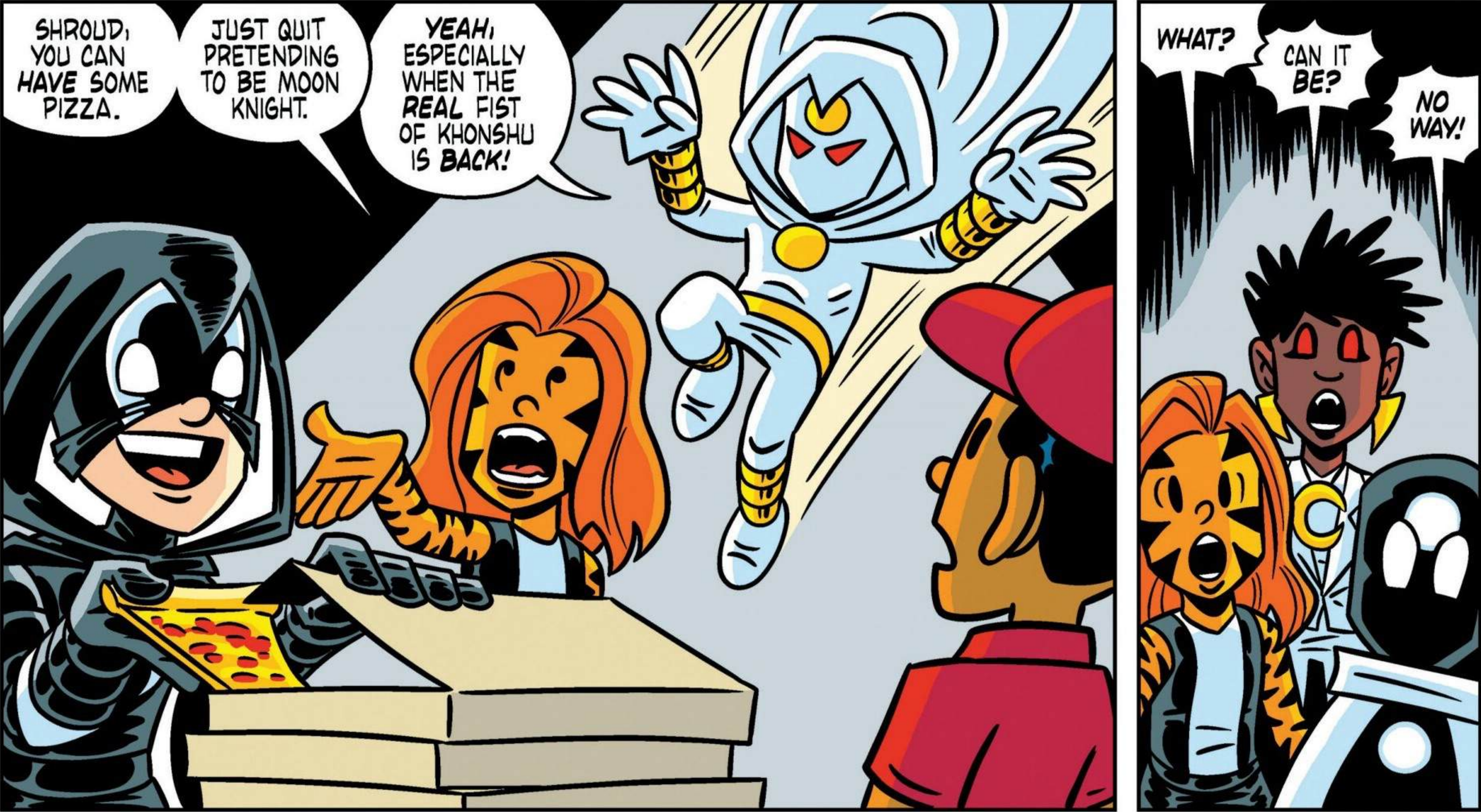


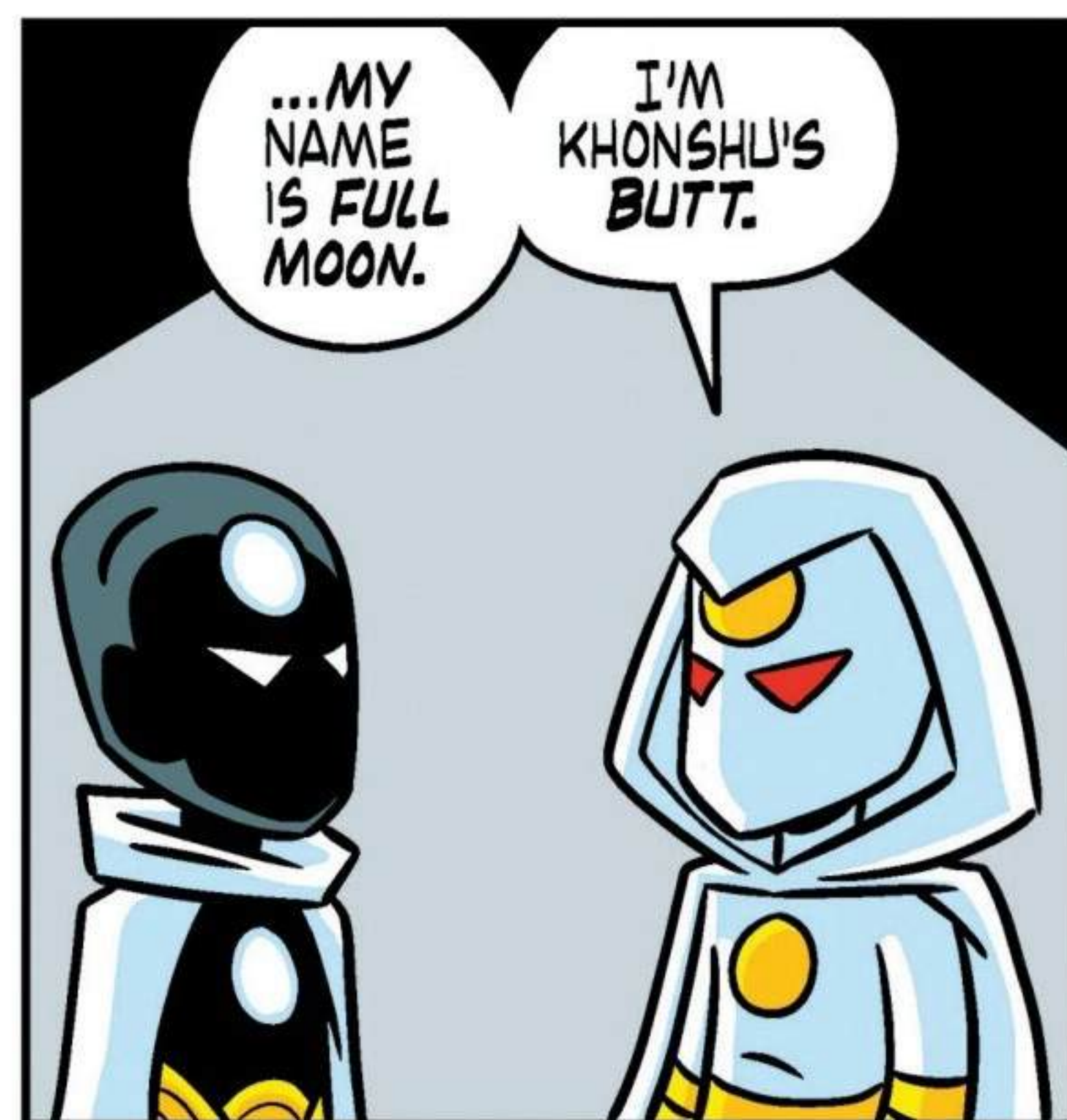
THE END!

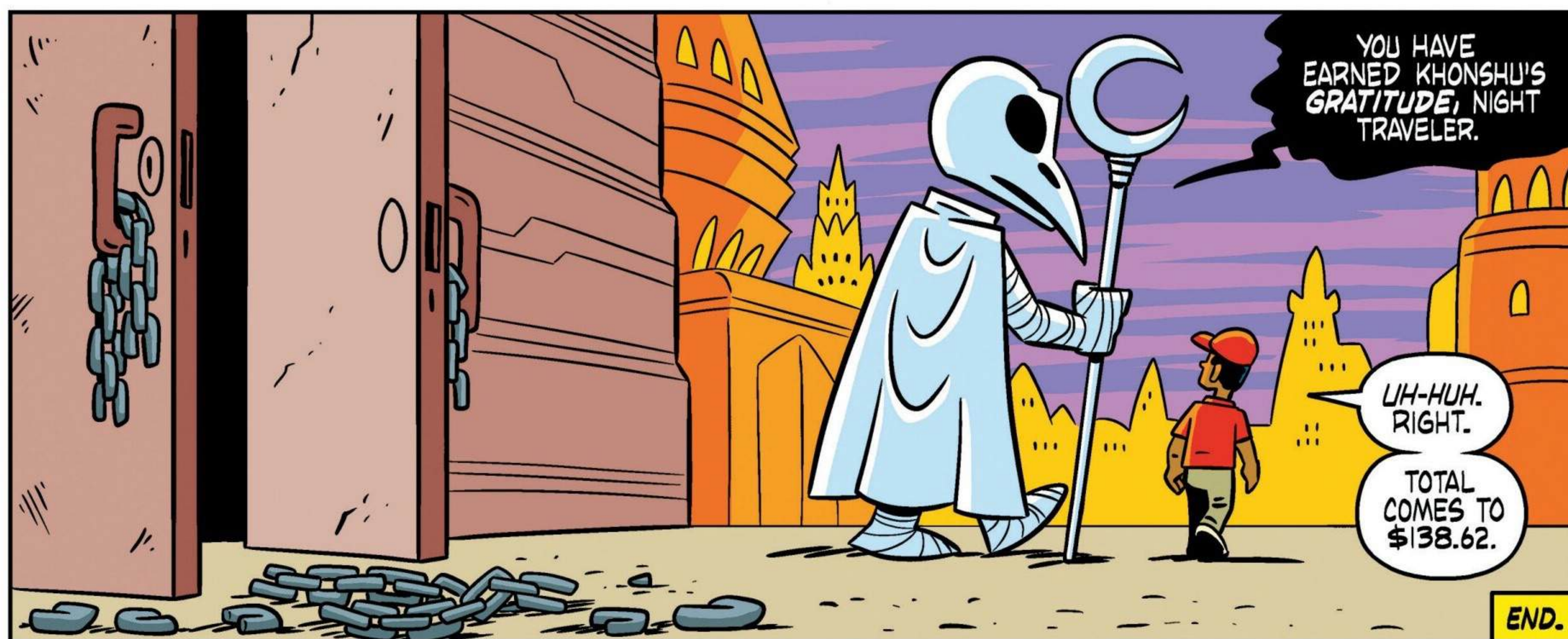
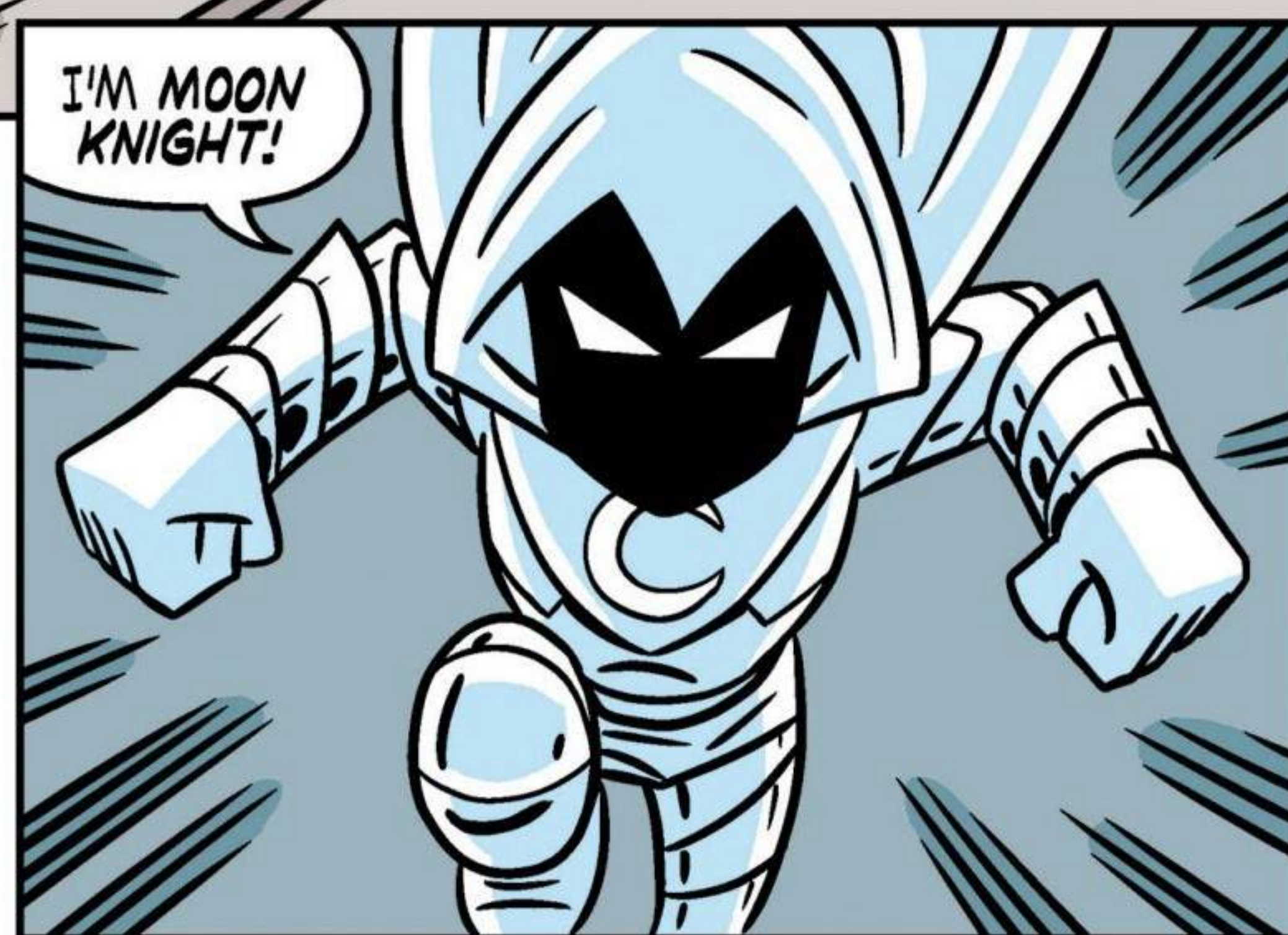
MINI MARVELS

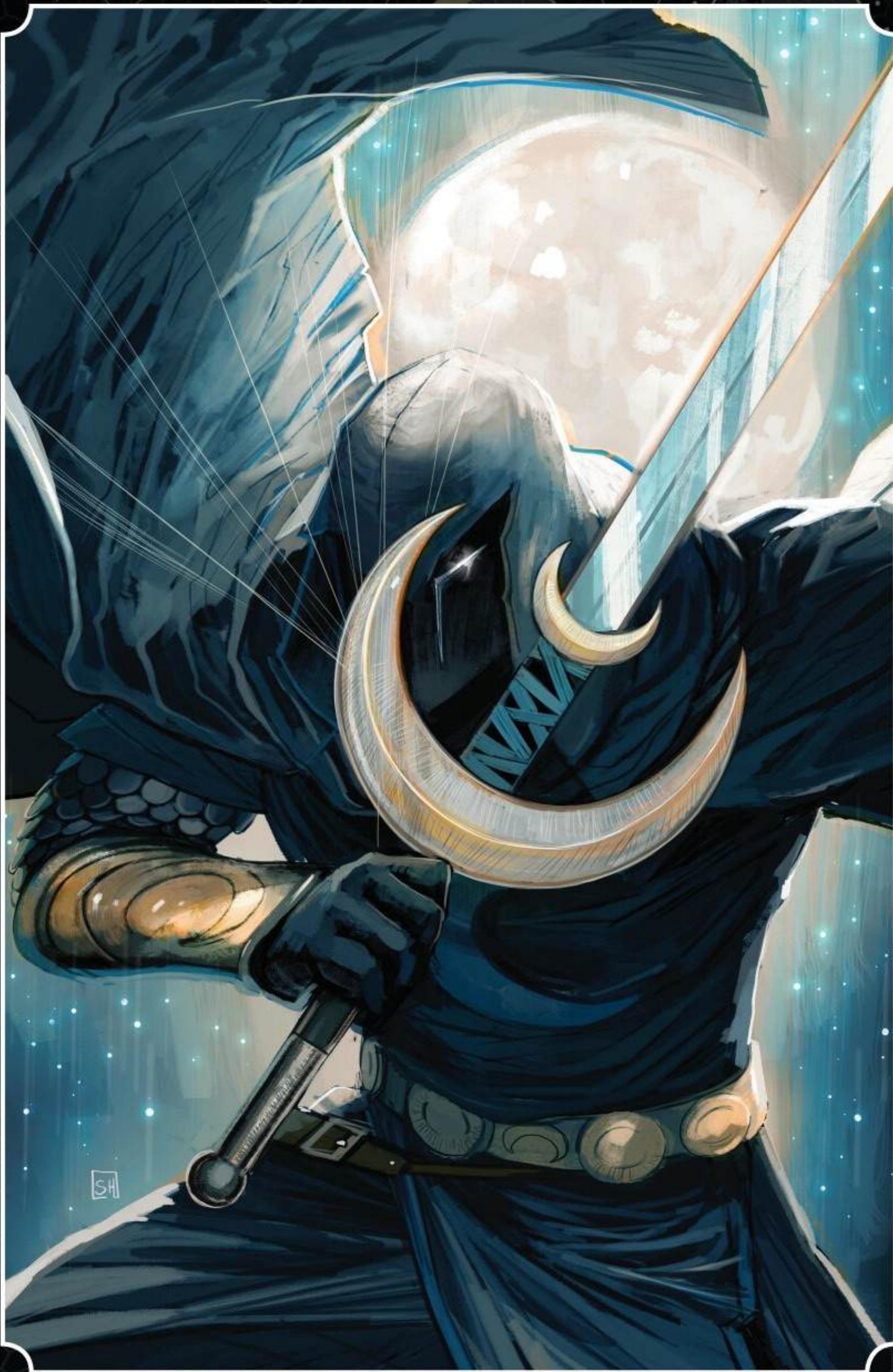
by Chris Giarrusso











#1 VARIANT BY STEPHANIE HANS



#1 MOON KNIGHT VARIANT BY DERRICK CHEW



#1 DESIGN VARIANT BY ROD REIS



#1 VARIANT BY ANDREI BRESSAN & CECI de la CRUZ



4

“FOR NOW”
“BLOOD MOON, BLOOD BROTHERS”

ALEXANDRIA,
EGYPT. 1882.

MY CITY IS UNDER
SIEGE FROM WITHIN
AND WITHOUT.

THE BRITISH NAVAL SHIPS
HAVE COMMENCED WITH
THEIR **BOMBARDMENT**.

PRO-BRITISH FORCES OF THE
KHEDIVE'S GOVERNMENT
AND ANTI-BRITISH **URBISTS**
FIGHT ON THE STREETS.

AND THIS **FIST OF KHONSHU**
IS PREPARED TO HELP THE
INNOCENT AND STRIKE AGAINST
ANYONE WHO DESERVES MY
VENGEANCE!

THOUGH, AS HAS
OFTEN BEEN THE CASE IN
THE YEAR I HAVE SERVED
AS KHONSHU'S AVATAR...

...I CHOOSE *LIFE*
OVER *VIOLENCE*
WHERE I CAN.

YOU
CANNOT STAY
HERE. YOU MUST
LEAVE THE CITY
TO FIND
SAFETY.

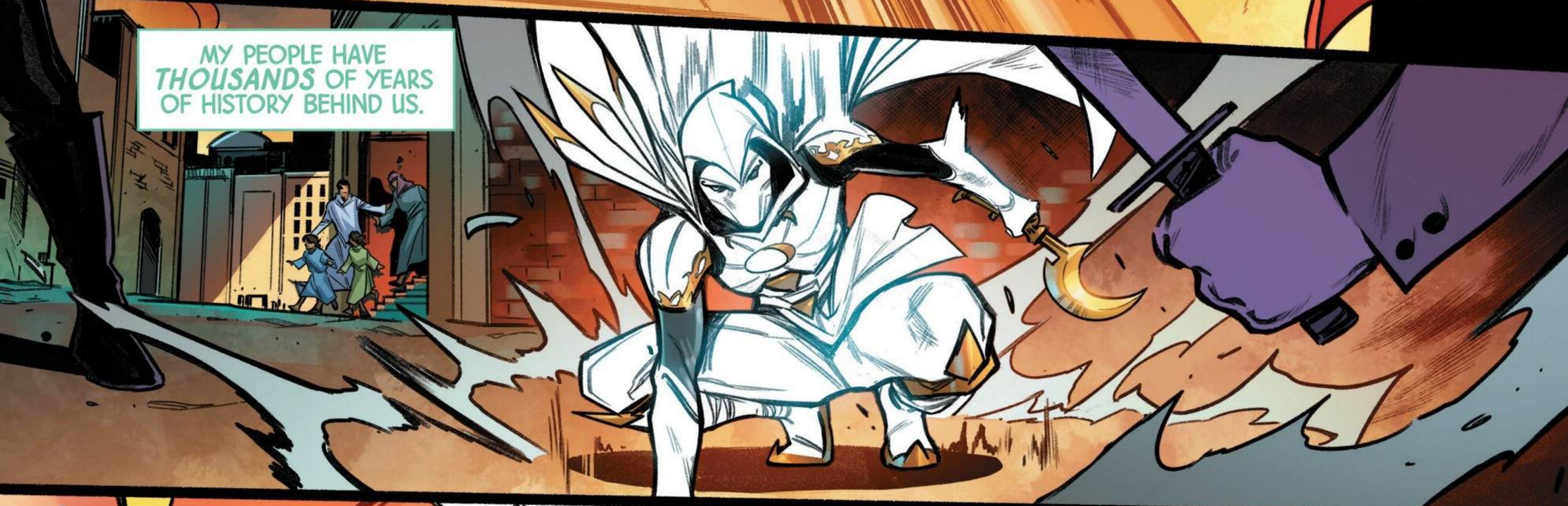
I AM AN AGENT OF *ORDER*,
YET I AM SENDING THOSE
CIVILIANS BACK INTO *CHAOS*.

MY PEOPLE ARE TRAPPED
BETWEEN THE MONEYPED FORCES
OF TRADITION AND CALLS FOR
POPULISM AS "FREEDOM."

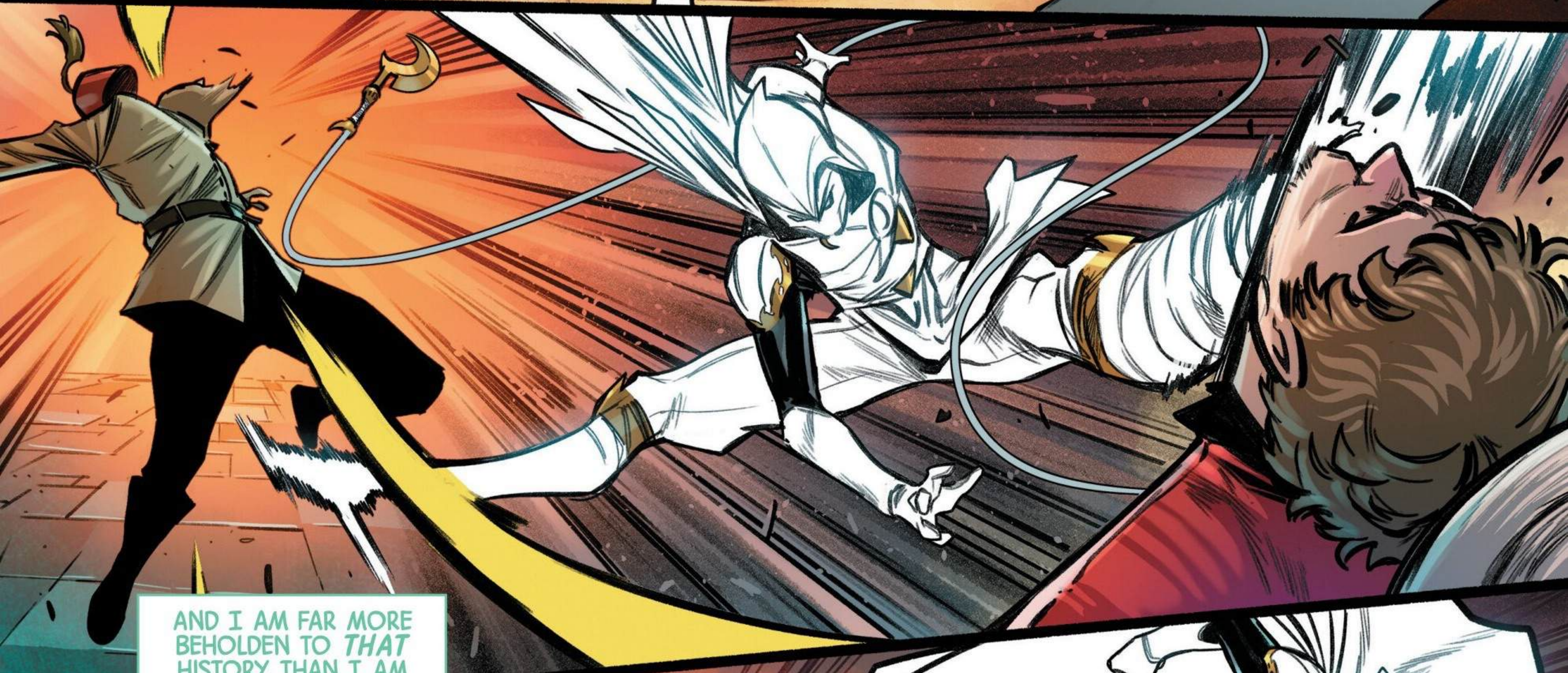




FOOLS ONE
AND ALL, GRAINS
OF SAND WHEN
COMPARED TO THE
DESERT OF TIME.



MY PEOPLE HAVE
THOUSANDS OF YEARS
OF HISTORY BEHIND US.



AND I AM FAR MORE
BEHOLDEN TO *THAT*
HISTORY THAN I AM
TO THOSE WHO SEEK TO
WRITE THEIR *OWN*.



BOTH IN AND OUT OF THIS
GARB, I AM A *CARETAKER*
OF THE *PAST*, WHO ASPIRES TO BE
THE *SHEPHERD* TO THE *FUTURE*.

A FUTURE, UNFORTUNATELY,
WHICH IS QUITE IN
QUESTION RIGHT NOW.



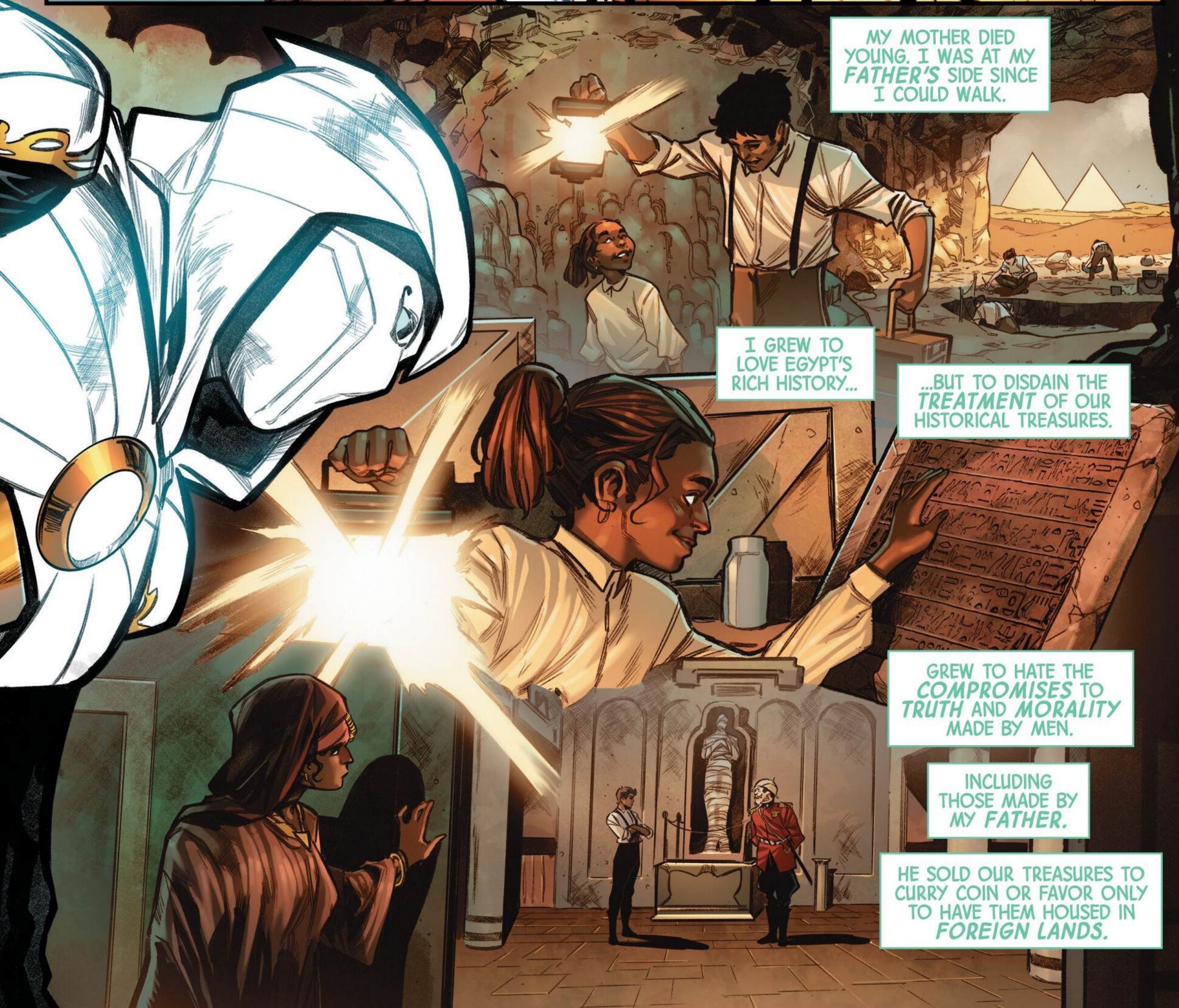
THE FIGHTING WILL FLATTEN THE CITY.
THEY WOULD **DESTROY** WHAT THEY
ARE NOT ALLOWED TO **POSSESS**...

...EVEN IF IT MEANS THE
DESTRUCTION OF ALL
THEY **WANT** TO POSSESS.



OUR **PAST**.
OUR **SELVES**.
OUR **SOULS**.

WHO AND WHAT WE **WERE**
INFORMS HOW WE SHOULD **BE**
AND WHERE WE SHOULD **GO**.



MY MOTHER DIED
YOUNG. I WAS AT MY
FATHER'S SIDE SINCE
I COULD WALK.

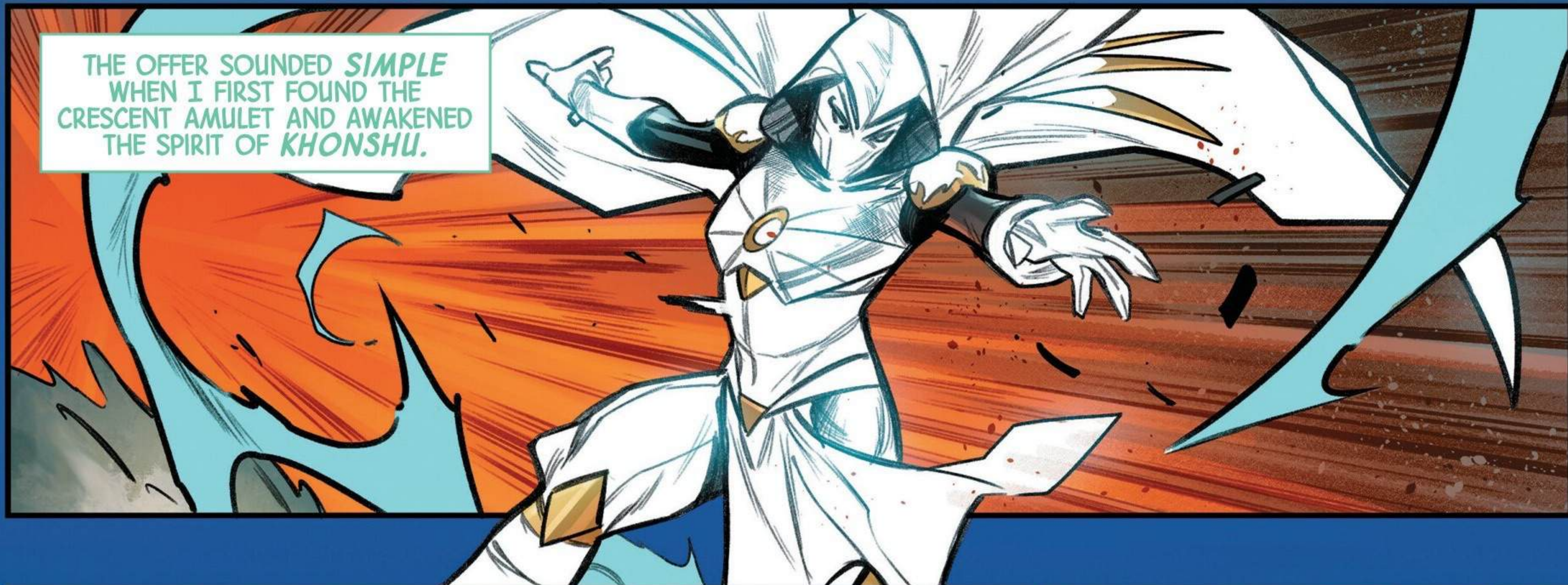
I GREW TO
LOVE EGYPT'S
RICH HISTORY...

...BUT TO DISDAIN THE
TREATMENT OF OUR
HISTORICAL TREASURES.

GREW TO HATE THE
COMPROMISES TO
TRUTH AND **MORALITY**
MADE BY MEN.

INCLUDING
THOSE MADE BY
MY **FATHER**.

HE SOLD OUR TREASURES TO
CURRY COIN OR FAVOR ONLY
TO HAVE THEM HOUSED IN
FOREIGN LANDS.



THE OFFER SOUNDED **SIMPLE** WHEN I FIRST FOUND THE CRESCENT AMULET AND AWAKENED THE SPIRIT OF **KHONSHU**.



BUT WHAT DOES A "**FIST OF VENGEANCE**" DO IN A LAND WHERE THE ONES BEST EQUIPPED TO RECLAIM OUR ARTIFACTS SAFELY--MY PEOPLE--

--HAVE ALSO BEEN THE ONES TOO OFTEN WHO HAVE **PROFITED** FROM THEIR EXPORT?



THEY STEAL THE **SPIRE** OF **SERQET**, PROTECTOR OF THE DEAD.

IRONIC IN LIGHT OF EVERYTHING HAPPENING AROUND US--

--BUT THEY DON'T REALIZE THE **DANGERS** THEY ARE EXPOSING THE CITY TO.



THIEVES!

AND JUST LIKE THAT, THINGS GO FROM **DEADLY**...



...TO
CATASTROPHIC.

THE CANOPIC JAR
CONTAINED THE SOULS
OF SERQET'S FAITHFUL,
MANIFESTED IN DEMONIC
ANIMAL FORM.

ONCE RELEASED, THEY YEARN
FOR LIFE--AND THE ONLY WAY
FOR THEM TO ATTAIN THAT--

--IS BY CONSUMING
THE LIVING!

HADHA
KATHIR
JDAN...



IT IS ALL
TOO MUCH.

A COUNTRY TORN BY STRIFE.
COMMUNITIES AND FAMILIES
RIVEN BY CULTURAL CHANGES.

A FEEDING GROUND
FOR THE FORCES
OF CHAOS.



AND ORDER IS SUCH
A STRUGGLE...IT WOULD
BE UNDERSTANDABLE IF
MANY CHOSE TO JUST...
STOP FIGHTING.

BUT I DON'T HAVE THAT
LUXURY. PEOPLE NEED TO
BE STOPPED, PEOPLE
NEED TO BE SAVED.



GRAPPLING LINE AND
PULLEY FOR ACCESSING
DESCENDING CORRIDORS.

I USE THE TOOLS OF
ARCHAEOLOGY AS
MUCH AS WARFARE.



I'VE SURVIVED THIS
LONG, SO THEY
MUST BE WORKING.



I NEED TO COUNTER THE DEMONIC POSSESSION WITHOUT HARMING THE HUMAN HOSTS.



ONLY ONE PERSON MIGHT KNOW OF A WAY TO DO SO.

A MAN WELL DESERVING OF KHONSHU'S JUSTICE, WHO HAPPENS TO BE...

SHUKRAN!

THANK YOU!



...MY FATHER.

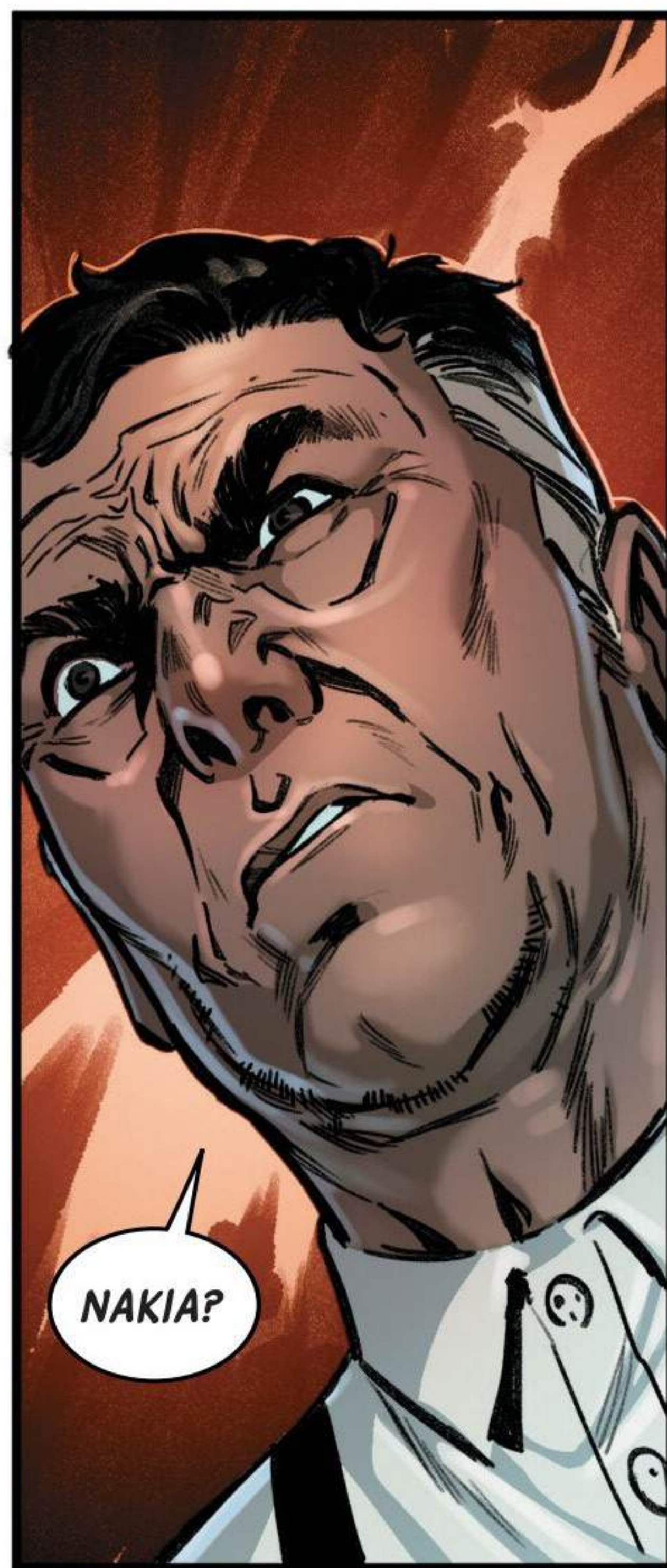
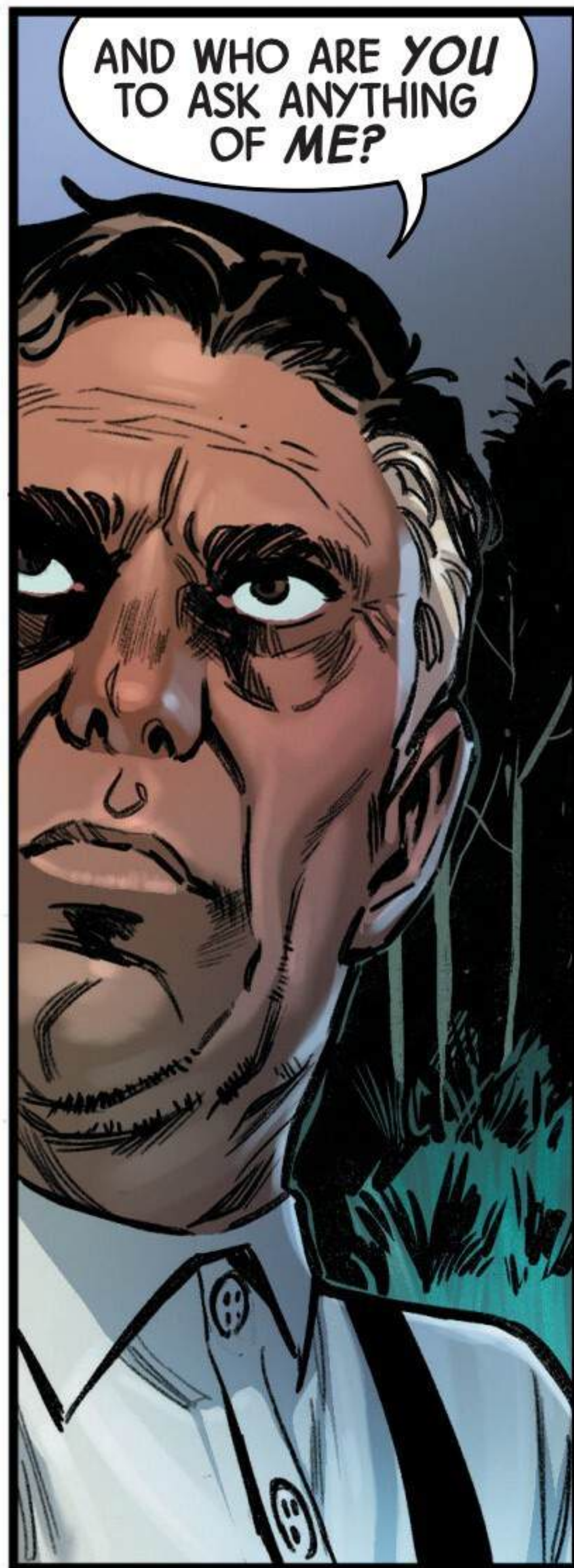
AMON FAARIS HUNAM, THE CURATOR OF ANTIQUITIES TO THE KHEDEVE RULER OF EGYPT.

BECAUSE HE TRIES TO APPEASE ALL SIDES, WE HAVE BEEN ESTRANGED.



THE SOULS OF SERKET HAVE BEEN RELEASED. THEY ARE FEASTING ON THE MAYHEM.

I NEED YOUR HELP.





WE DID NOT HAVE
TIME TO TALK.

THERE IS ALWAYS A
REASON, THOUGH
NEVER AS LEGITIMATE
AS THIS ONE.

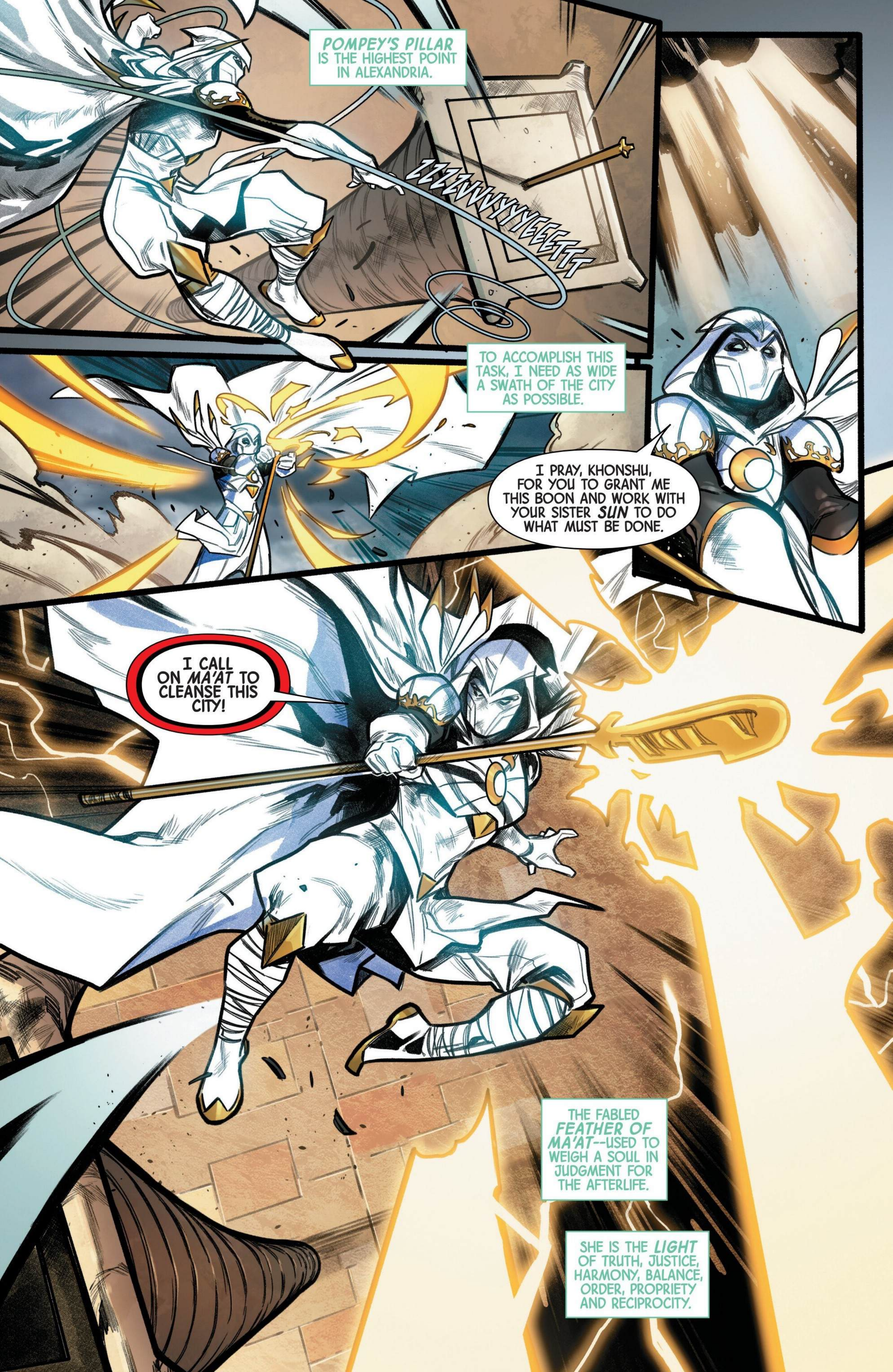
HE LOOKED *TIRED*. HIS
BURDENS WEIGH ON HIM...
AS MINE DO ON *ME*.

THE *PAST* IS MEANT
TO INSPIRE OUR
FUTURE, BUT I
LOOK AT MY CITY...

...AND ALL I SEE
IS THE *PRESENT*
CONSPIRING
TO DENY BOTH.

PPPPFFFTUTW

THEN I CAN'T SEE MUCH
THROUGH THE PALL
FROM THE TORINOKO.



POMPEY'S PILLAR
IS THE HIGHEST POINT
IN ALEXANDRIA.

TO ACCOMPLISH THIS
TASK, I NEED AS WIDE
A SWATH OF THE CITY
AS POSSIBLE.

I PRAY, KHONSHU,
FOR YOU TO GRANT ME
THIS BOON AND WORK WITH
YOUR SISTER *SUN* TO DO
WHAT MUST BE DONE.

I CALL
ON MA'AT TO
CLEANSE THIS
CITY!

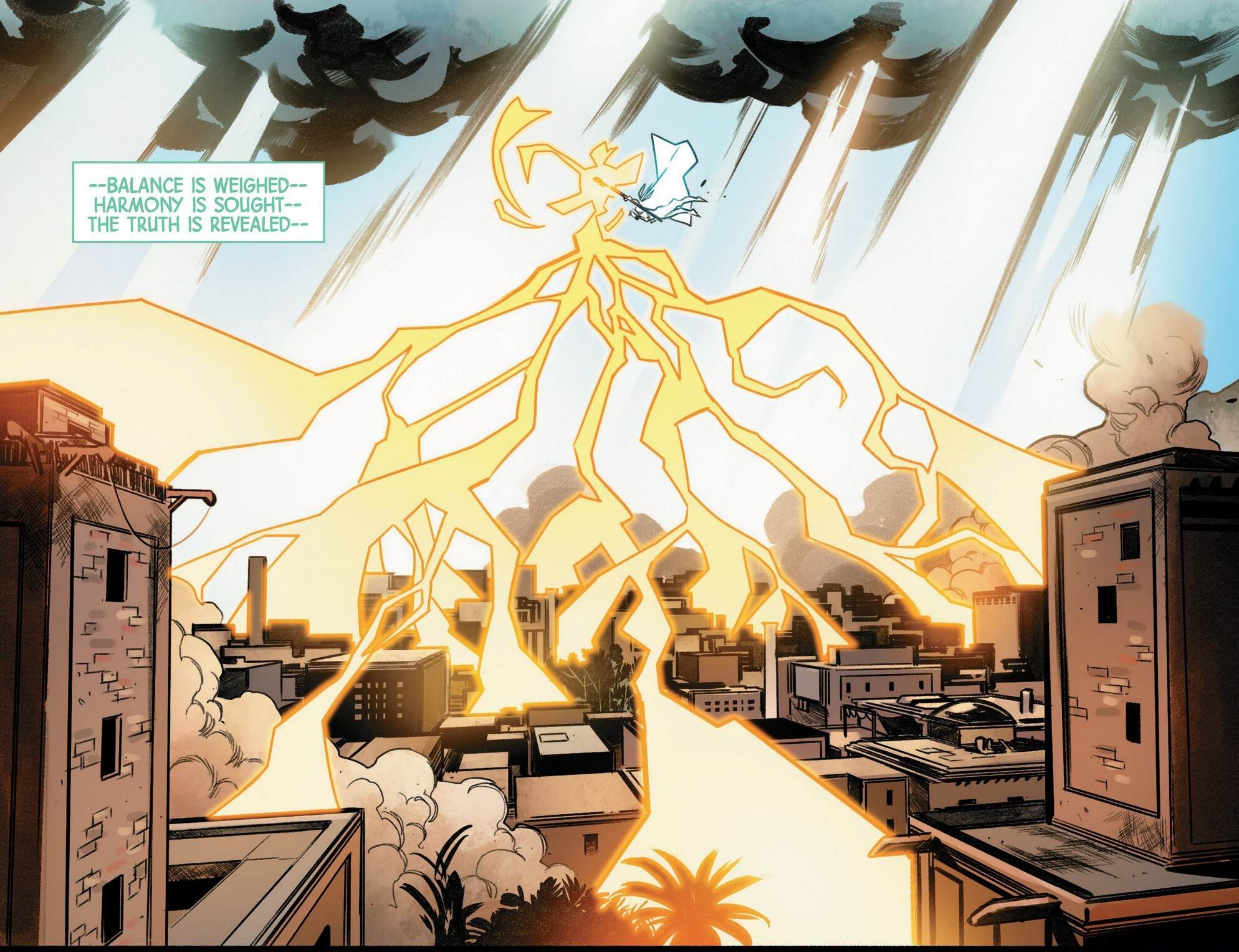
THE FABLED
FEATHER OF
MA'AT--USED TO
WEIGH A SOUL IN
JUDGMENT FOR
THE AFTERLIFE.

SHE IS THE *LIGHT*
OF TRUTH, JUSTICE,
HARMONY, BALANCE,
ORDER, PROPRIETY
AND RECIPROCITY.



WORKING THROUGH
ME AS THE CONDUIT OF
KHONSHU'S POWERS...

...THE SPIRITS
OF THE DEITIES
ARE **UNIFIED**
IN PURPOSE--



--BALANCE IS WEIGHED--
HARMONY IS SOUGHT--
THE TRUTH IS REVEALED--



--AND FOR THE
HOSTS WHOSE LIVES
HAVE BEEN STOLEN--



--ORDER IS
RESTORED--



--AND
VENGEANCE
IS SECURED!



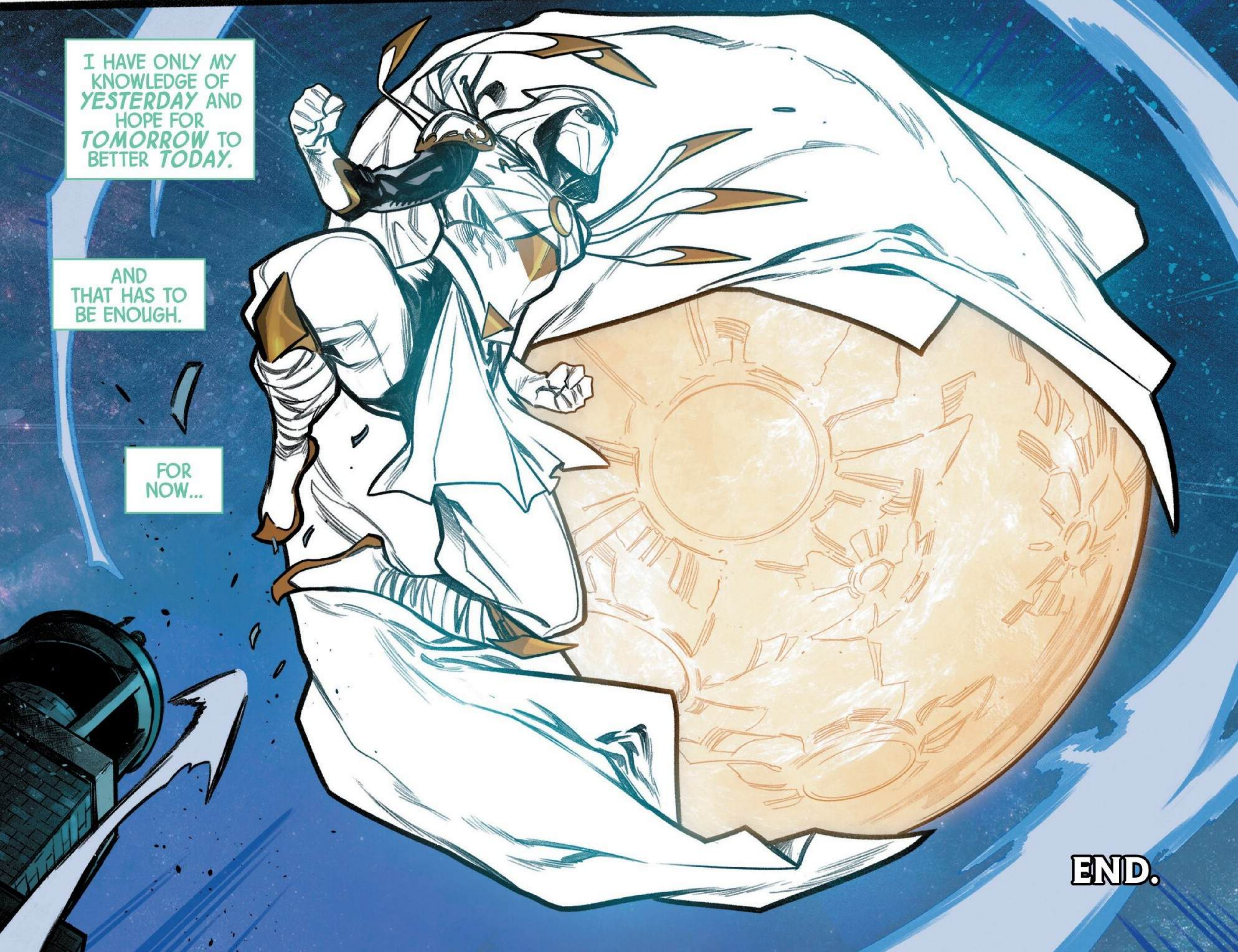
THE DAY PASSES.
THE FIGHTING IS
DONE. FOR NOW.

THE PEOPLE REGROUP.
FACTIONS REMAIN. THEIR
CAUSES STILL DIFFER, YET
TRAUMA UNIFIES THEM.
FOR NOW.



I AM A WOMAN.
ARCHAEOLOGIST.
WARRIOR. IN A
WORLD THAT
WOULD NOT HAVE
ME. FOR NOW.

THE PLIGHT OF
MY COUNTRY IS
NOT A PROBLEM
THAT A *FIST*
CAN SOLVE.

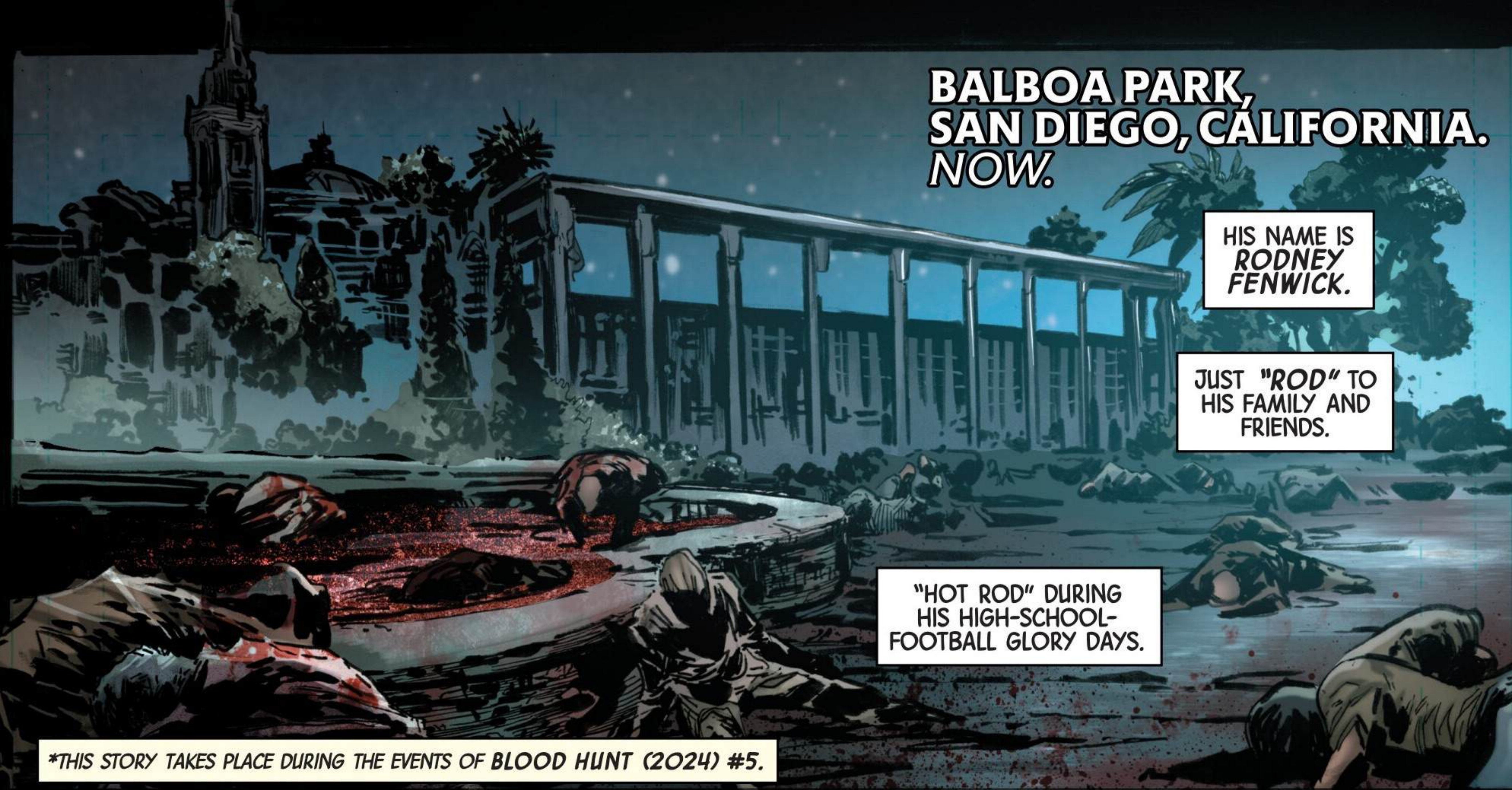


I HAVE ONLY MY
KNOWLEDGE OF
YESTERDAY AND
HOPE FOR
TOMORROW TO
BETTER *TODAY*.

AND
THAT HAS TO
BE ENOUGH.

FOR
NOW...

END.



**BALBOA PARK,
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.
NOW.**

HIS NAME IS
**RODNEY
FENWICK.**

JUST **"ROD"** TO
HIS FAMILY AND
FRIENDS.

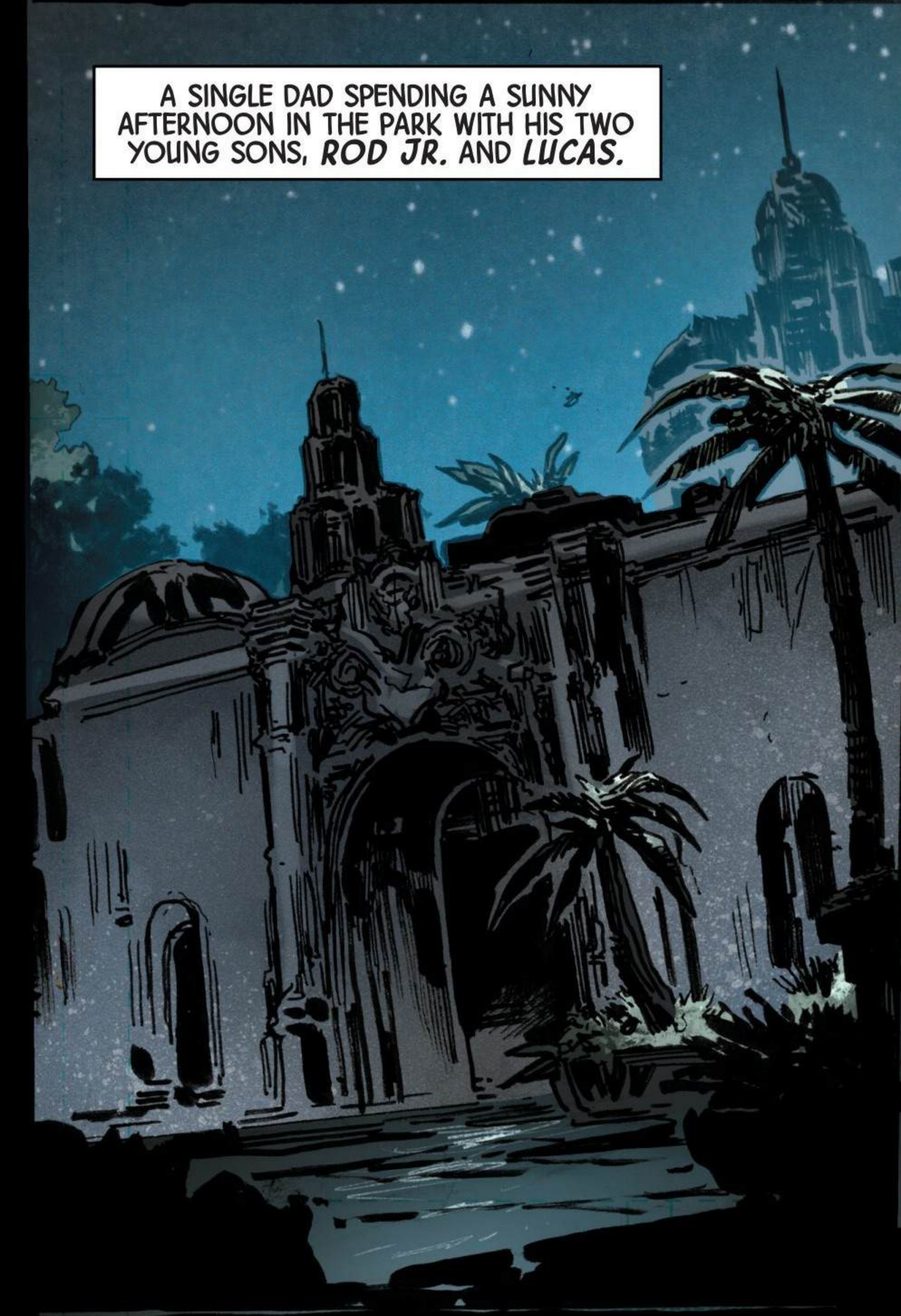
"HOT ROD" DURING
HIS HIGH-SCHOOL-
FOOTBALL GLORY DAYS.

**THIS STORY TAKES PLACE DURING THE EVENTS OF BLOOD HUNT (2024) #5.*



FORMER MARINE.
CONSTRUCTION
FOREMAN.

RECENT
DIVORCE.



A SINGLE DAD SPENDING A SUNNY
AFTERNOON IN THE PARK WITH HIS TWO
YOUNG SONS, **ROD JR.** AND **LUCAS.**



THAT IS, UNTIL THE
ENTIRE WORLD WENT
DARK AND **THEY** CAME...

VAMPIRES.

WHOLE PACKS
OF THEM.

SLAUGHTERING
OR TURNING
ANYONE IN
THEIR BLOODY
PATHS.

ROD'S FIGHT-OR-FLIGHT COMBAT
EXPERIENCE HAD KICKED IN
AS SOON AS THE MONSTERS
HAD ARRIVED--HE KNEW AN
INSURMOUNTABLE ENEMY
FORCE WHEN HE SAW ONE.

THIS WASN'T AN ATTACK
TO **ENGAGE**. THIS WAS A
MASSACRE TO **ESCAPE**.

AND SO HOT ROD FENWICK AND
HIS SONS RAN, AS **FAST** AS
THEY COULD...UNTIL THERE WAS
NOWHERE ELSE **LEFT** TO RUN TO.

ALL THEY COULD DO
NOW WAS **PRAY**--

--PRAY FOR A
MIRACLE TO
SAVE THEM.

AHH...
THERE YOU
ARE.
WE'VE BEEN
LOOKING
EVERYWHERE
FOR YOU
THREE.

SNEAKY
LITTLE
BLOOD
BAGS.

GET
BEHIND
ME, BOYS.

AND DON'T
OPEN YOUR
EYES.

BUT,
D-DADDY--

DO
WHAT
I SAY,
LUCAS!

YES,
LISTEN TO
YOUR DAD,
LITTLE BOY.

CLOSE
YOUR EYES...

...JOIN
US IN THE
DARK.

WHAT
THE--?

AND THEN,
SUDDENLY...

...A
MIRACLE.

A MOON
WITHIN
A MOON.

A

MOONKNIGHT.



A large action panel showing Moon Knight, in his silver suit and white mask, fighting a group of vampires. He is in the center, surrounded by several vampires. One vampire on the left has a glowing red eye. The scene is chaotic with debris and dynamic poses.

THE MAN IN WHITE BEGINS TO *SLICE* AND *HACK* HIS WAY THROUGH THE ATTACKING VAMPIRES WITH *VIOLENT EFFICIENCY*...

...GIVING ROD ENOUGH TIME TO SEE THAT SOMETHING'S *DIFFERENT*.

A close-up panel of Rodney Fenwick, a man with a mustache and a concerned expression, looking towards the right. He is wearing a dark jacket.

ROD'S WATCHED MOON KNIGHT ON THE NEWS SERVING WITH THE *AVENGERS* AT LEAST A DOZEN TIMES.

AND EVEN THOUGH THE WARRIOR IN FRONT OF HIM LOOKS AND MOVES *SIMILARLY* TO THE MOON KNIGHT HE'S SEEN BEFORE, ROD KNOWS...

A large action panel showing Moon Knight fighting a group of vampires. He is in the center, surrounded by several vampires. One vampire on the left has a glowing red eye. The scene is chaotic with debris and dynamic poses.

IF ROD DIDN'T KNOW BETTER, HE'D SWEAR THIS MOON KNIGHT WAS A PART OF THIS MUSEUM EXHIBIT...

...THIS IS DEFINITELY *NOT* THE SAME GUY FROM THE TV.

A large panel showing Rodney Fenwick in the foreground, looking up with a shocked expression. In the background, Moon Knight is seen fighting a group of vampires in a museum setting with classical statues.

...MAGICALLY BROUGHT *BACK* TO LIFE.

IF RODNEY FENWICK ONLY KNEW...

...JUST HOW *RIGHT* HE IS.

THIS MOON KNIGHT'S
NAME WAS KING
KHALMEZIIR IV.

RULER,
WARRIOR,
FATHER...

...A VERY OLD MAN WITH
THE WEIGHT OF THE WORLD
ON HIS SHOULDERS.

ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA. 824 B.C.

FOR 35 YEARS, KHALMEZIIR
HAD *RULED* THE LAND. NOW, AGED
AND SICKLY, THE KING KNEW THE
ANGEL OF DEATH WAS DRAWING NEAR--

--AND THAT THE TIME TO *PASS*
HIS CROWN ON TO HIS CHOSEN
HEIR WAS FAST APPROACHING.

SADLY, NOT FAST ENOUGH FOR
KHALMEZIIR'S ELDEST SON,
RAMSIN, WHO HAD INITIATED
A *BLOODY REVOLT* TO
TAKE HIS DYING FATHER'S
THRONE BY FORCE.

THE MUTINOUS CAMPAIGN HAD
DRAGGED NEARLY THE *ENTIRETY*
OF THE KING'S REALM DOWN INTO
A BLOODY AND VIOLENT DARKNESS.

ALL WOULD HAVE
SEEMED *HOPELESS*
FOR THE OLD KING...

...IF NOT FOR A
HOPEFUL *LIGHT* IN THE
SUFFOCATING GLOOM.

PLEASE
EXCUSE US,
FATHER, BUT IT
IS *TIME*--



--YOU MUST
RETIRE TO YOUR
CHAMBERS NOW.

HE WAS CALLED
SARGON.

THE KING'S
YOUNGEST SON AND
LOYAL TO HIS FATHER
BEYOND REPROACH.

IT WAS SARGON WHO HAD
LED KHALMEZIR'S'S FORCES
AGAINST RAMSIN'S REVOLT.

THE
BLOOD MOON
APPROACHES.

YES,
YES...YOU
ARE *RIGHT*,
MY SON.

AND IT WAS SARGON WHO HAD
BECOME THE KING'S *CHOSEN*
HEIR IN THE WAKE OF THE
ELDER SON'S TREACHERY.

BE SURE
THE KING IS
COMFORTABLE
AND *SECURE* IN
HIS CHAMBERS.

REPORT TO ME
IMMEDIATELY
IF THERE ARE ANY
PROBLEMS.

IT WILL BE
DONE, YOUR
MAJESTY.

WAIT...

YOU ARE KING
TONIGHT, SARGON.
AND SOON, *FOR*
ALL TIME. I...

I UNDERSTAND,
FATHER. I, *TOO*,
WISH FOR SUCH THINGS.
BUT PLEASE REST
EASY.

I WILL
WITHSTAND THE
BLOOD MOON TONIGHT, AND
TOMORROW, I WILL PUT *DOWN*
MY BROTHER'S REBELLION,
GOD WILLING.

AND THEN
PEACE WILL RULE
YOUR LANDS
ONCE AGAIN.

YES...

...I ONLY WISH
THE CIRCUMSTANCES
OF *BOTH* ACCOUNTS
WERE NOT SO FRAUGHT
WITH CALAMITY.

...GOD
WILLING.



IN THOSE DAYS OF MESOPOTAMIA, A BLOOD MOON WAS CONSIDERED A **DIRECT ASSAULT** ON THE KING. A PHENOMENON TO BE **FEARED**.



FORTUNATELY, THE KING'S SCIENTISTS POSSESSED THE ABILITY TO **PREDICT** ONE WITH REASONABLE ACCURACY.



ONCE FORECASTED, A **PROXY KING** WOULD TAKE THE PLACE OF THE KING FOR THE BLOOD MOON'S DURATION.



THEN, WHEN THE BLOOD MOON HAD PASSED, THE KING PRETENDER WOULD CONVENIENTLY **DISAPPEAR...**



...AND THE REAL KING WOULD **RETURN**.

GOD...



...WILLING.

ELSEWHERE, **RAMSIN**, TOO, KNEW THE BLOOD MOON WAS NIGH.

HE ALSO UNDERSTOOD THE THRONE WAS AT ITS **MOST VULNERABLE** DURING THIS TIME OF SUPERSTITIOUS FEAR AND FRENZY.

A VULNERABILITY HE PLANNED TO FULLY **EXPLOIT** TO FINALLY TAKE THE CROWN FOR HIS OWN, NO MATTER THE COST...

...EVEN A DEAL WITH THE DEVIL.

THE DEMON WAS **VARNAE**, THE FIRST VAMPIRE.

(THOUGH AT THE TIME, HE CALLED HIMSELF **BAAL**.)

MURDERER. THIEF. LIAR.

ANCIENT **EVIL** INCARNATE.

RAMSIN, I WOULD HAVE YOU DO THIS **DEED** FOR ME.

KILL YOUR BROTHER, THE **FALSE KING** WHO SITS ATOP THE THRONE THIS NIGHT. SLAY YOUR FATHER, THE **TRUE KING**.

GORGE ON THEIR FLESH AND BLOOD AS YOU TAKE BACK WHAT IS **RIGHTFULLY** YOURS.

DO **THIS** FOR ME, AND WHEN I BECOME GOD OF THIS WORLD, **ALL** THAT IS MINE WILL BE YOURS...

...MY MOST FAVORED SON!

AAAAGGH!



BUT BAAL WAS NOT THE
ONLY GOD LOOKING
TO FORGE A PARTNERSHIP
THAT EVENING.

KING
KHALMEZIIR IV,
AWAKEN NOW...

→GASP←

...FOR
TONIGHT,
YOU DIE.

KHONSHU.
ANCIENT
PROTECTOR DEITY.

GOD OF THE
MOON, TIME
AND VENGEANCE.

A *LIGHT* IN
THE DARK.

YES,
YOUR MORTAL
FATE IS SEALED--
BUT IT NEED NOT BE
THE SAME FOR
SARGON..

JOIN
ME FOR THIS,
YOUR FINAL NIGHT
ON THIS EARTHLY
PLANE.

BECOME
MY KNIGHT--MY
FIST--AND TOGETHER,
WE WILL REPEL AN EVIL
FAR OLDER THAN
ANYTHING YOU CAN
POSSIBLY
IMAGINE.

I WILL
SAVE THIS
WORLD
FROM BAAL'S
WICKEDNESS.

AND YOU
WILL SAVE
YOUR MOST
FAVORED
SON...

"...FROM THE VILE SCHEMES OF HIS BROTHER."

HELLO, SARGON.

RAMSIN? IS THAT... YOU?

YES, LITTLE BROTHER...

...AND SO MUCH MORE!

AS AM I.

SHNK
GAH

F-FATHER?

ONCE, PERHAPS.

BUT AFTER ALL THE ATROCITIES YOU HAVE CAUSED.

SHLITTT

GUH!

ALL THE BLOODSHED.

KRAK

ALL THE DEATH.

SHLIP

RAHH!

AFTER THIS MONSTROSITY YOU HAVE ALLOWED YOURSELF TO BECOME, YOU ARE NO LONGER MY SON.

FUMP

UNF!

AND I AM NOT YOUR FATHER.
WHO?

WHA--?

SWP!

TONIGHT, I AM...

...THE FIST OF KHONSHU!

SHRKK

NOOOO!



RAMSIN
WAS DEAD.



VARNAE'S
MALEVOLENT
PLOT FOILED.



THE WORLD
WAS SAVED.

FATHER!

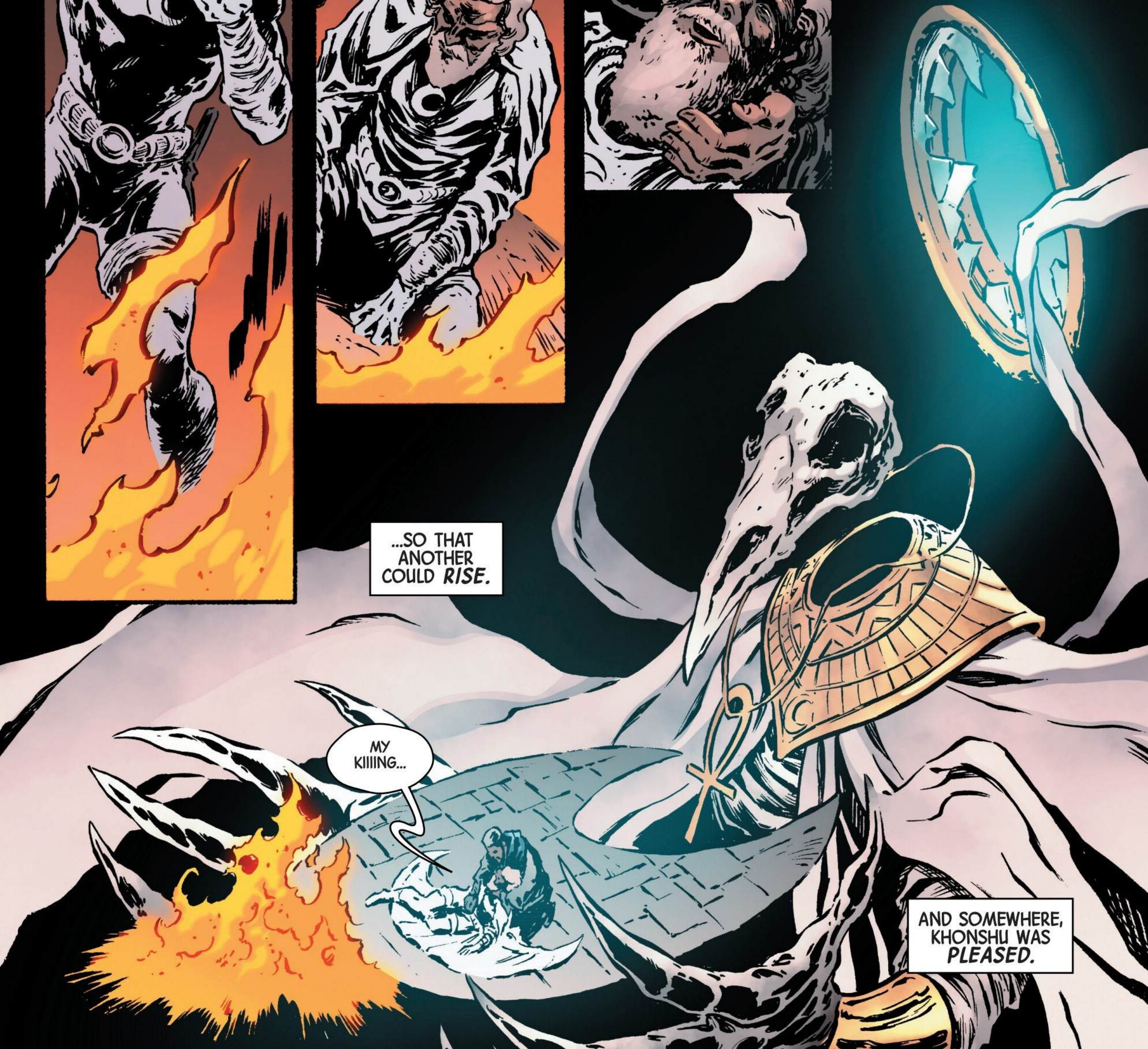


AS ONE GOOD
KING FELL...

F-FATHER...
WHY?



B-BECAUSE
YOU HAVE...EARNED
THIS...MY SON.



...SO THAT
ANOTHER
COULD RISE.

MY
KILLING...

AND SOMEWHERE,
KHONSHU WAS
PLEASED.

SOME
SAY THAT
HISTORY
REPEATS.

PERHAPS. TO
A POINT.

GLLRG!

SHRKK

WHA--?

SWP

KHONSHU *HAD*
CALLED UPON THIS
FIST TO HELP FIGHT
BACK AGAINST
VARNAE'S EVIL
MACHINATIONS ONCE
AGAIN, IT'S TRUE.

NOW.

BUT *THIS* TIME,
EVERYONE
WAS SAVED.

THE FATHER *AND*
BOTH HIS SONS.

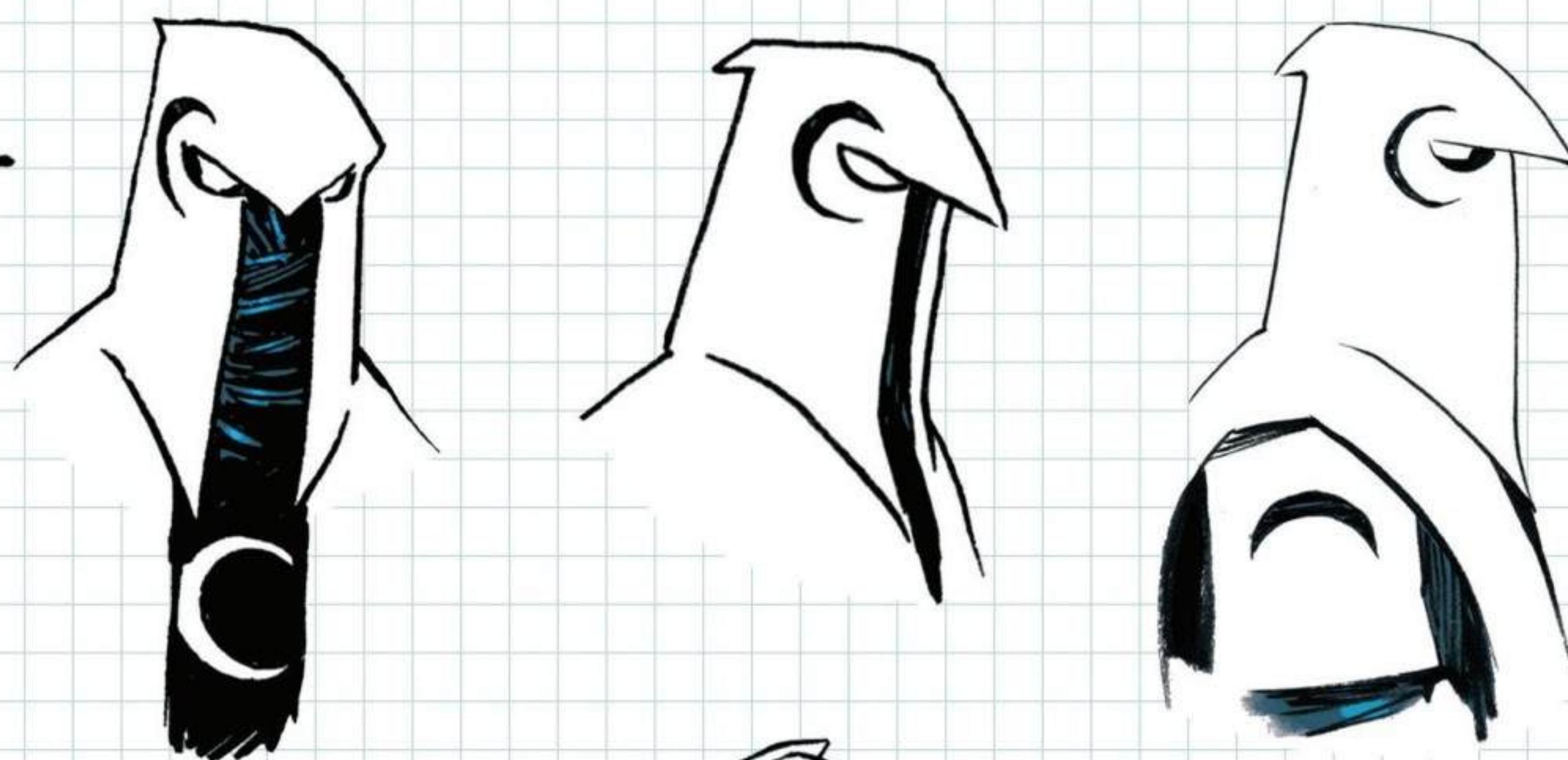
THANK
YOU.

AND SOMEWHERE,
KING KHALMEZIIR
IV IS PLEASED.

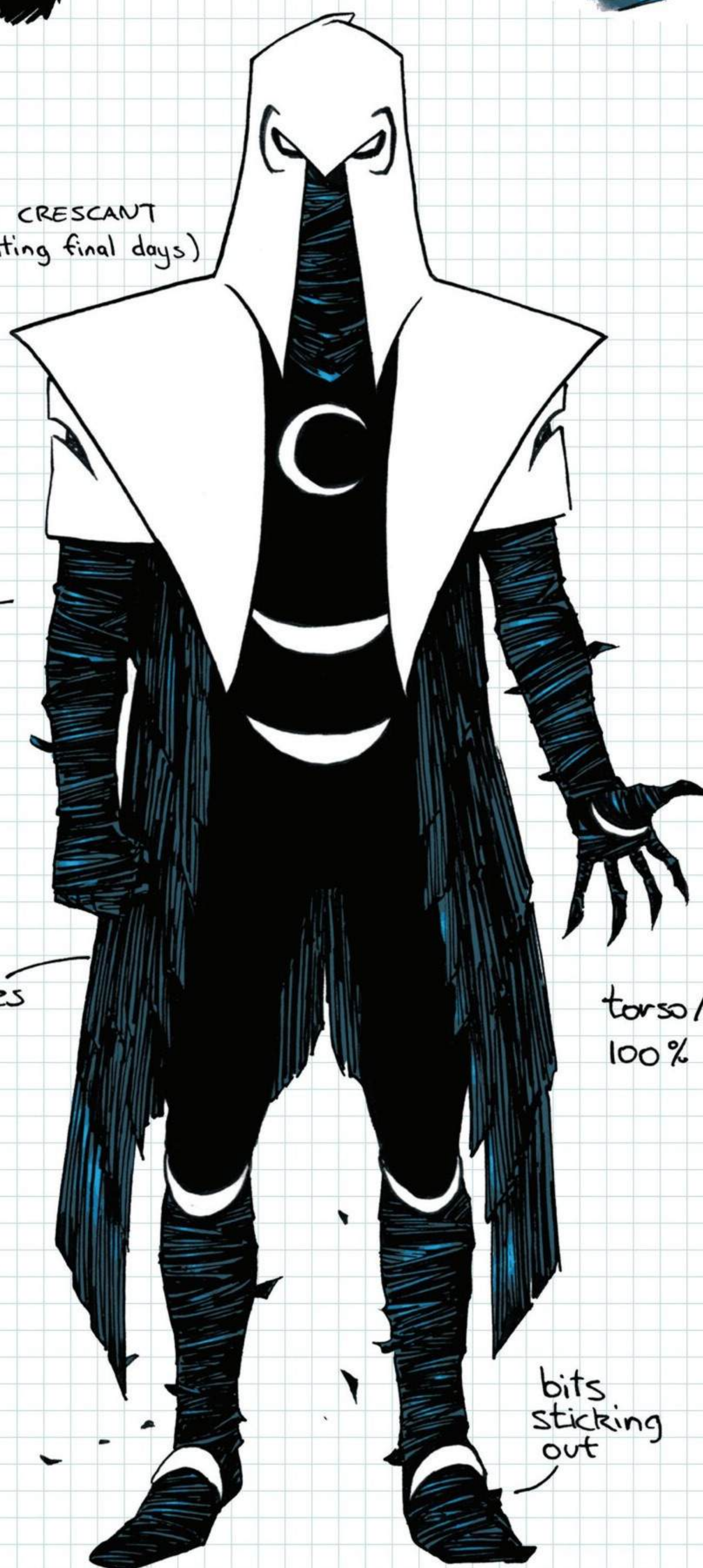
THE END!

MOON KNIGHT

"OLD CROW"



SLIM CRESCANT
(indicating final days)



black
bandages

coat of
'feathers'
ie, bandages

bits of
bandages
shed

torso / thighs
100% black

bits
sticking
out



DECLAN
2024

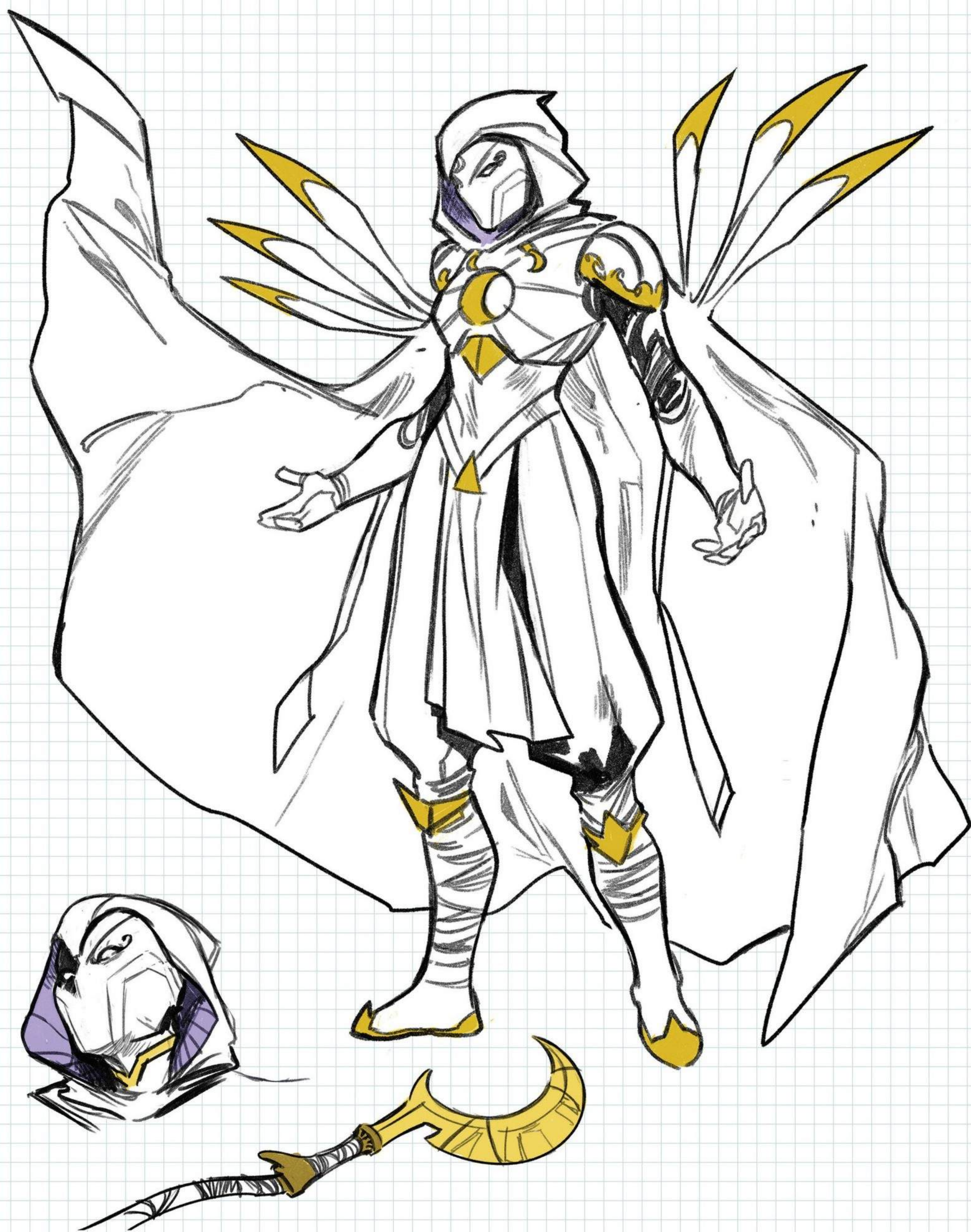












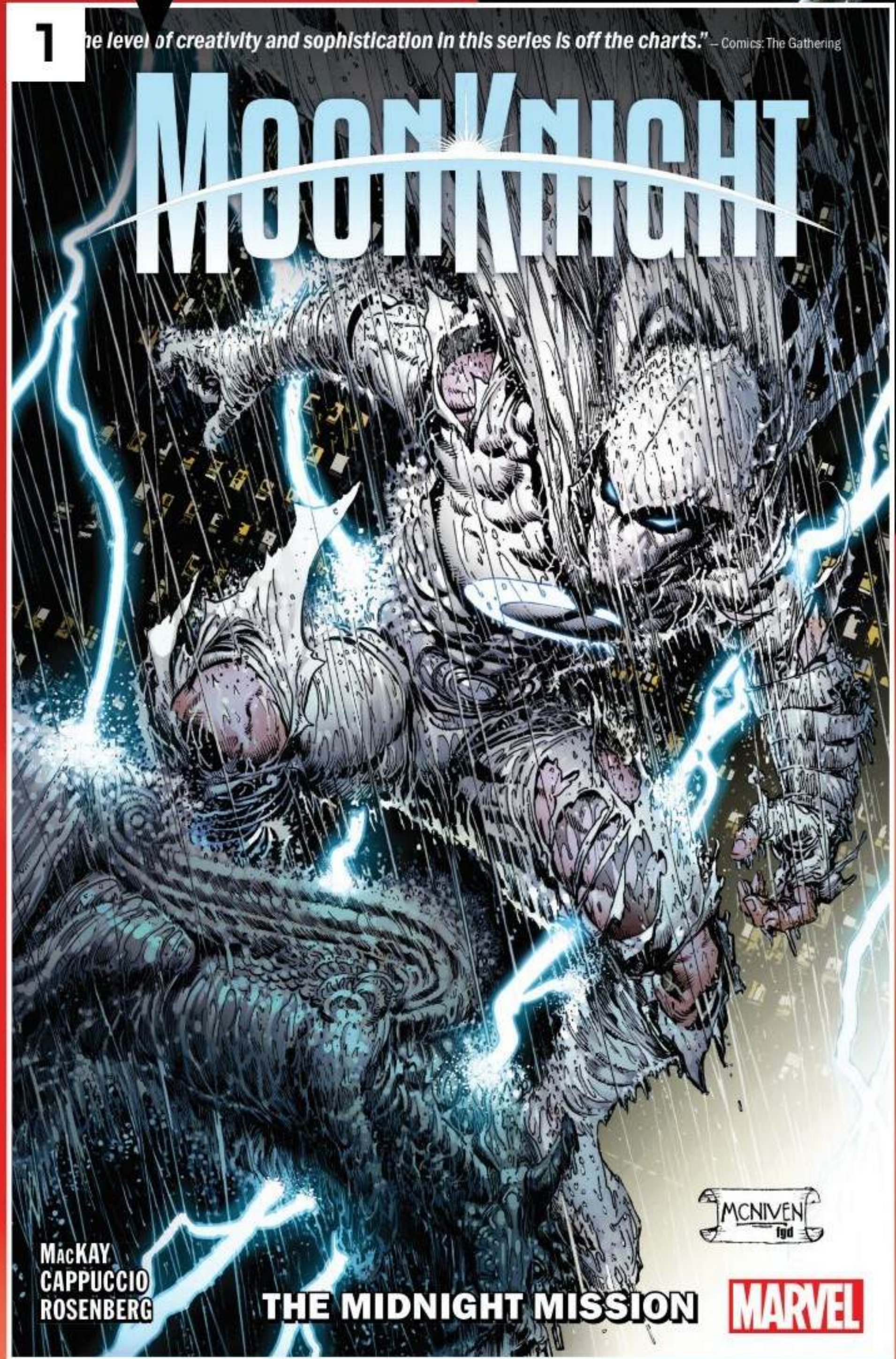


SLM
delgado

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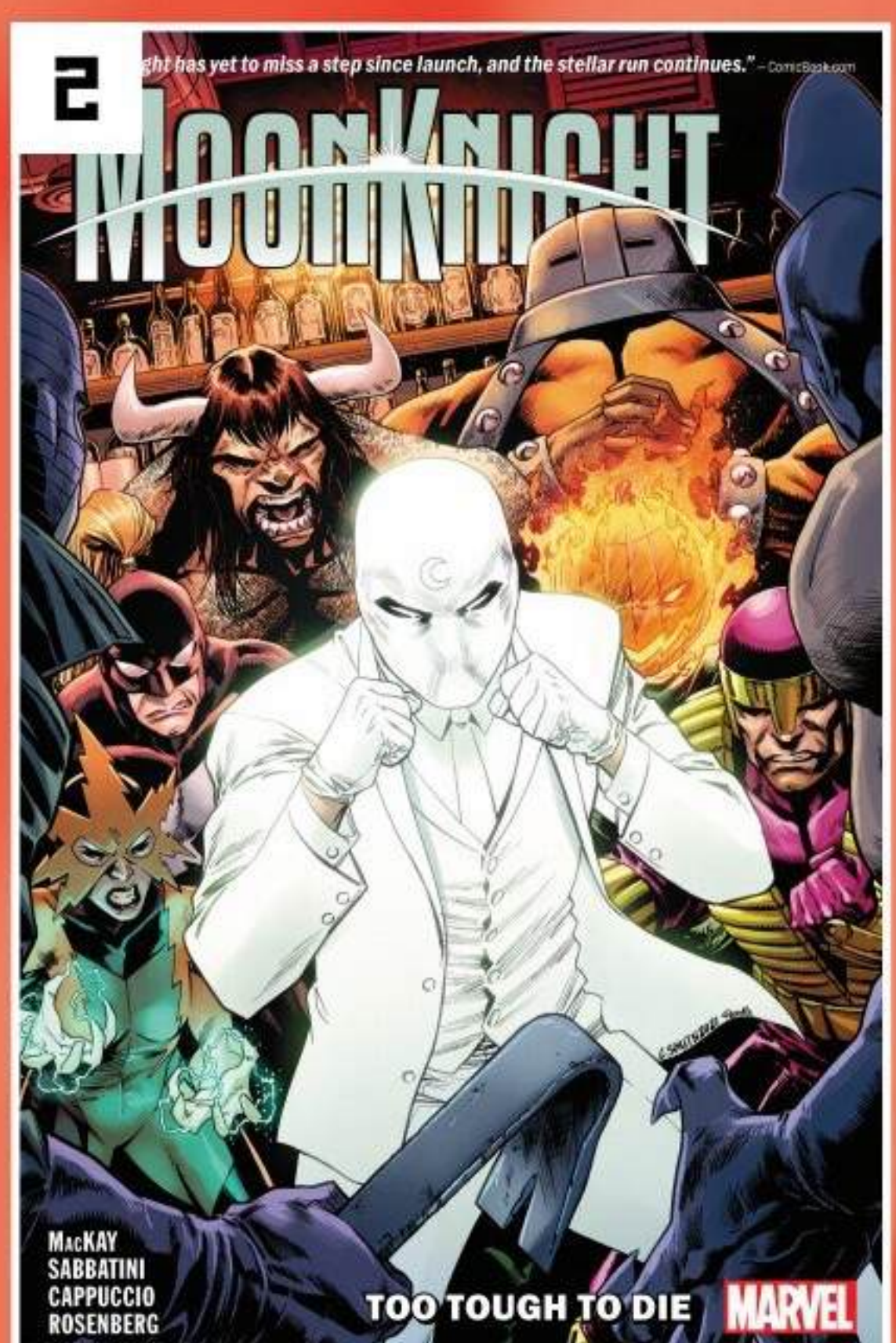
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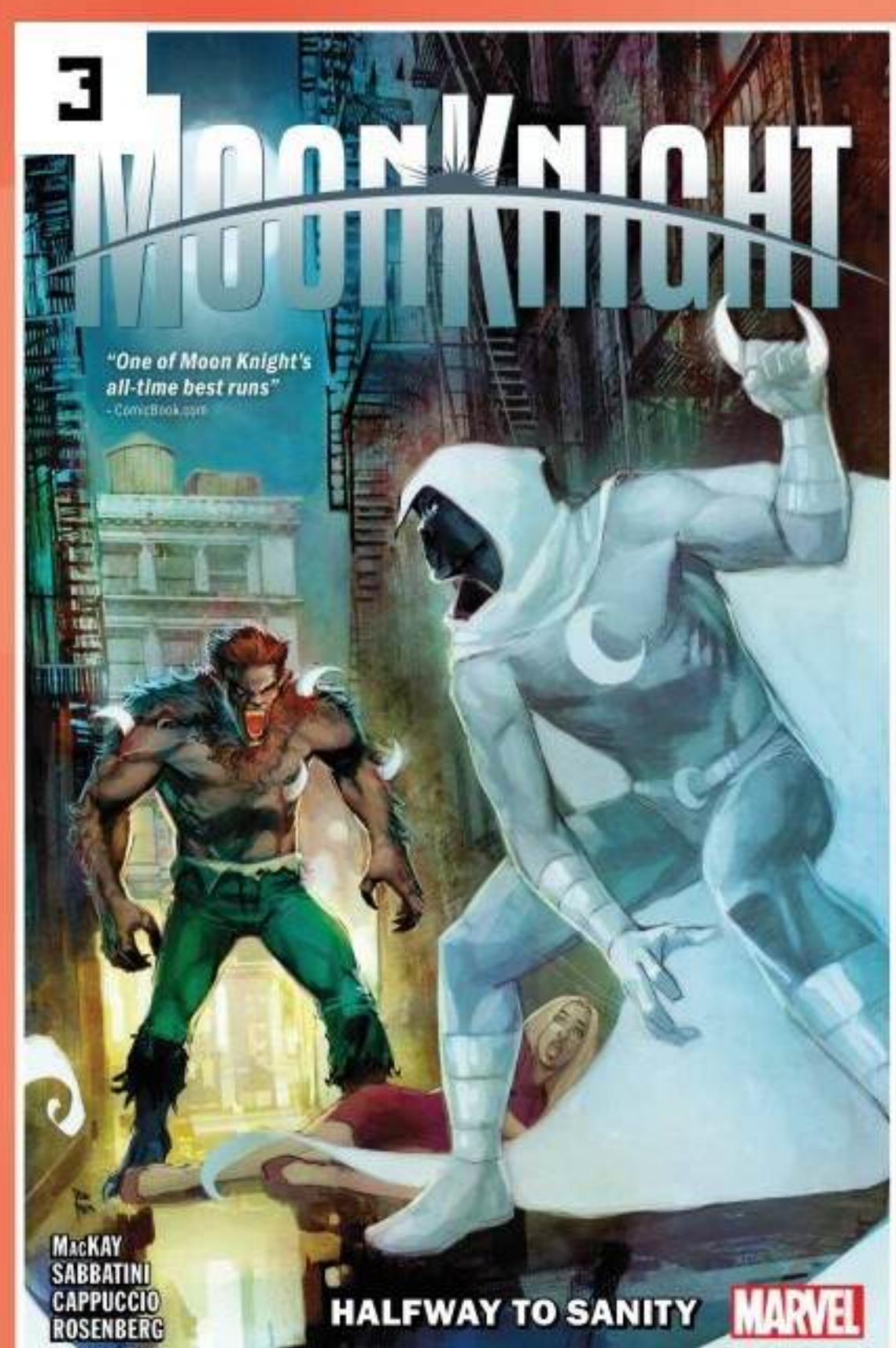
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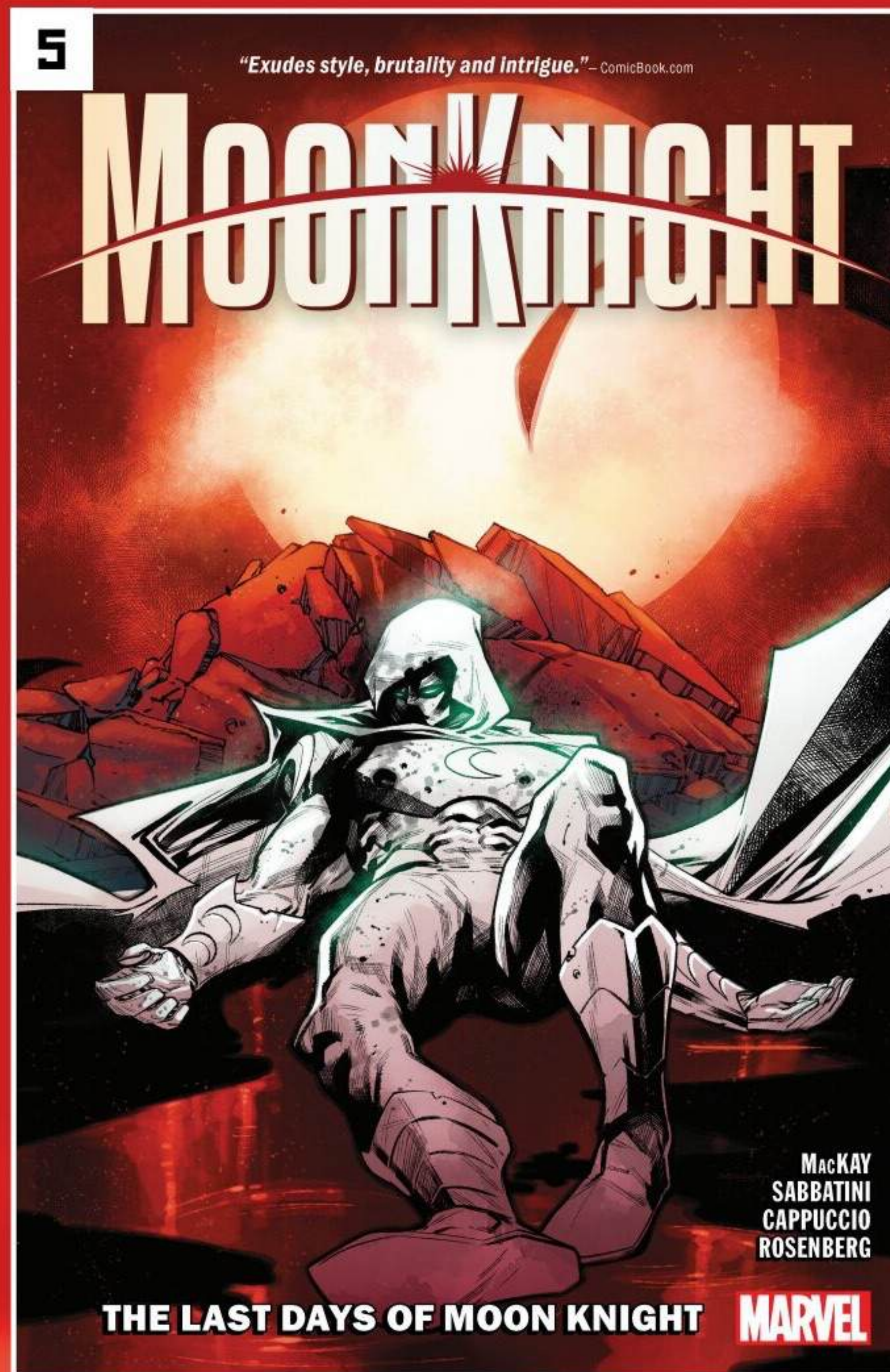
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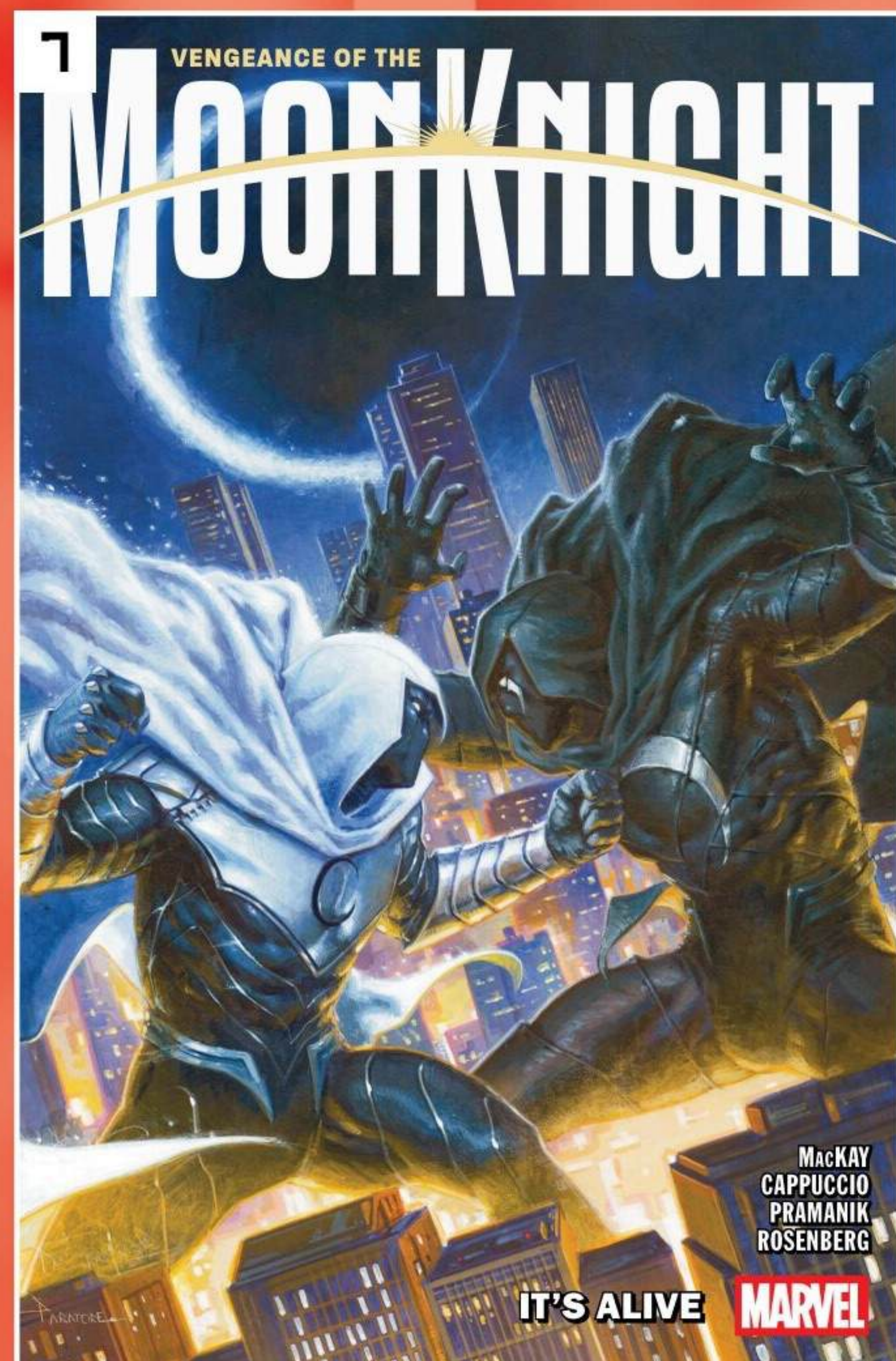
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